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Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXIII, Issue No. 129

MONDAY JULY 1, 2013

www.saipantribune.com

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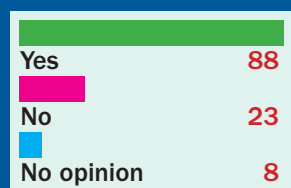
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POLL RESULTS

Should the Commonwealth Government Employees Credit Union be abolished?



Sunday, June 30, 2013

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Chill out with do-it-yourself summer wine coolers.

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ALMOST \$4M FOR OVER 9,000 TAXPAYERS

Rebate, refund checks out

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Close to \$4 million in tax rebate and refund checks have so far been released from Friday to today for over 9,000 CNMI taxpayers, much earlier than the original target date of August.

» **CNMI submits \$5.46M in child tax certification to IRS**

Over \$5.46 million in child tax credit checks could also be released within the month, also much earlier than usual and close to the opening of classes.

Gov. Eloy S. Inos made the announcement about the release of tax refund and rebate checks in a statement yesterday.

A father of three from Chalan Kanoa

said yesterday he's happy with the early release, adding that the money "will circulate in the local economy."

"It seems like the economy is really improving. I am expecting some \$800 in check, which I will use to repay a car loan, do some house repairs and if there's more left, will save it. The child tax credit check is strictly for my children's school

See REBATE on Page 4

CNMI bids farewell to Crisostimo

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Gov. Eloy S. Inos and former governor Juan N. Babauta both delivered moving

tributes for their longtime friend, former senator Luis P. Crisostimo Jr., at Mount Carmel Cathedral on Saturday morning, hours before Crisostimo was laid to rest at the Chalan Kanoa cemetery.

Inos talked about his and his family's longtime personal friendship with Crisostimo and his family, while Babauta spoke of Crisostimo's contributions to the CNMI and his "faith in God.

See FAREWELL on Page 4

Senators carry the casket of former senator Luis P. Crisostimo to a waiting hearse after the Senate held a memorial tribute for their former colleague on Capital Hill Friday morning. The memorial tribute, held a day before Crisostimo's burial, granted the former senator's wish to be brought back to the Senate "one last time" after succumbing to cancer.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO



Russian investors buy former Paradise Hotel

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Russian investors have been expanding their investments in the CNMI as the tourism industry expands, including last week's purchase of the former Paradise

Hotel Saipan in Garapan, the recent purchase of Marianas Coffee, and planned eco-tourism tours on Pagan in the Northern Islands.

Vlad Melnik, general manager of Volcano Tours Travel, said he and business

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NMI braces for House action on Senate-passed immigration bill

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Despite uncertainties over the U.S. House of Representatives' future action

on a sweeping immigration bill that the U.S. Senate passed Thursday afternoon (past 6am Friday CNMI time), the bill is already historic for the CNMI for provi-

See IMMIGRATION on Page 4

Senate bill seeks to delay NMI minimum wage hike. PAGE 3
Governor extends CHC emergency anew. PAGE 8

So far, so good for 2013 Liberation Day festivities

“The opening went well. I’m very pleased how it turned out.”

That sums in part how 2013 Liberation Day committee chair Vicente C. Camacho feels about the start of celebrations leading up to the 4th of July holiday.

Camacho and Saipan Mayor Donald Flores opened the 2013 Liberation Day festivities last Friday evening at the Civic Center grounds, a few kilometers down the road from the Garapan Fishing Base, which was its home for several years.

In his opening remarks Camacho reiterated the importance

of celebrating Liberation Day not only for the U.S. but the CNMI as well.

“Freedom is not free! Many have perished to protect a race, a religion, a country, or a nation. In order to instill this sentiment to the community, we must remind ourselves why we celebrate Liberation Day. ...This year the Liberation [Day] committee is asking the community to join us in highlighting this year’s theme, ‘The Spirit of Cooperation: Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness,’” he said.

The island of Saipan cel-

brates Liberation Day to mark the June 15, 1945, opening of the gates of Camp Susupe where most of Saipan’s residents at that time were interred after the end of World War II. Saipan used to be a colony of Japan and



SAIPAN TRIBUNE

The Kagman High School JROTC conducted the posting of colors during the opening of the 2013 Liberation Day festivities last Friday at the Civic Center grounds in Susupe. Looking on from the stage are Liberation Day committee chair Vicente Camacho, Saipan Mayor Donald Flores, and Grace Christian Ministries pastor Alvin Owens.



SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Saipan Mayor Donald Flores and his wife Cecilia pose with the 2013 Liberation Day Royal Court candidates during opening day of the festivities last Friday.

was the scene of many bloody battles during the Pacific War.

Camacho also took the opportunity to thank everyone who had a part in making the 2013 Liberation Day festivities possible.

“Without the support of the community this event wouldn’t have been possible. Working with the committee has also been a joy leading up to this evening. This is just the first of a seven-day event leading up July 4 for the official celebration where the parade will be the most anticipated event.”

He also extended his gratitude to the vendors plying their trade and entertainers performing during the weeklong celebration, as well as to government agencies like the Saipan Mayor’s Office, Department of Public Works, Department of Public Safety, Department of Lands and Natural Resources, and the Liberation Day or-

ganizing committee.

4th of July Parade and Royal Court

So far, 30 have already signified their intention to join the 4th of July parade and float competition on July 4.

The parade will start at 10am and the route will start in Guano Rai and proceed south to the Civic Center grounds.

The announcement of the Royal Court winners would be done on Monday at 7pm as originally planned. Organizers already counted the tickets of competing candidates last Saturday morning.

The five candidates vying for this year’s crown are Annalyn Jovannah Cabrera, Rea-Lei L. Iskawa, Melody Margaret Johnson, Sina Ha’ani Ulloa Palacios, and Nicole Ichihara Sablan.

Vendors still wanted

Camacho said that vendor slots for the 2013 Liberation Day is

still open and he is inviting food and retail businesses to join the festivities.

“We’re still open for vendors to come in...as many slots [as we can accommodate] and everyone is welcome,” he said.

For his part, Flores welcomed everyone to 68th Liberation Day festivities. He also congratulated organizing committee chair Camacho and his hardworking staff for putting everything together.

Like Camacho, he also thanked the various individuals and private and government agencies that are working to make the weeklong event successful.

“It is the spirit of cooperation that makes this event possible,” he said.

Flores invites the whole community—including the people of the islands of Tinian, Rota, and Northern Islands—to take part in the event. *(Saipan Tribune)*



A weekly update from the Marianas Visitors Authority
Tourism is everybody’s business.

26th Korea World Travel Fair

To promote the Northern Marianas to consumers and retail partners as one of the best available leisure destinations,

the Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) and its tourism partners participated in the 26th Korea World Travel Fair on May 31-June 2.

This year, the MVA won the “Best Tourism Publicity Award” from the Korea World Travel Fair organizing committee.

This year’s fair was the largest yet, with 500 exhibitors representing 52 countries across the globe. Over 120,000 visitors attended the 4-day fair. In addition to having a booth featuring the celebrity Northern Marianas tourism ambassadors and girl group “Secret,” the MVA



also answered questions of fair visitors and provided brochures, maps, and giveaways.

On May 31, a **Marianas Seminar** was held to provide 50 participants more in-depth details about Saipan, Tinian and Rota

and their tourist attractions.

Paid for with a federal grant from the Office of Insular Affairs



Local

Bipartisan Senate bill seeks to delay CNMI minimum wage hike, extend CW and E2-C

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**
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REPORTER

A new bipartisan U.S. Senate bill has been introduced to address U.S. territories' concerns, including an every-other-year delay in the CNMI's minimum wage increase of 50 cents starting in September 2013, and an extension of the Commonwealth-only worker or CW program as well as the CNMI-only investor status or E2-C program beyond Dec. 31, 2014.

U.S. Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee chair Sen. Ron Wyden (D-Oregon) and Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska), ranking member, introduced S. 1237 on Thursday.

That was the same day the U.S. Senate passed a bipartisan, sweeping immigration reform bill that includes a pathway to citizenship for thousands of long-term, legal aliens in the CNMI.

S. 1237 or the Omnibus Territories Act of 2013 contains all of the provisions in HR 2200 that Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP), along with other U.S. delegates, introduced in May.

Wyden and Murkowski introduced S. 1237 at the request of Sablan and other insular area delegates: Madeleine Z. Bordallo (D-Guam), Donna Christensen (D-U.S. Virgin Islands), and Eni Faleomavaega (D-American Samoa).

"Chairman Wyden and Sena-

tor Murkowski have also agreed to move quickly and hold a hearing on their legislation on July 11," Sablan said.

Omnibus territories bills have traditionally been a means of enacting unrelated legislation dealing specifically with the insular areas, but the practice has fallen out of use.

"Moving territorial issues as a group in each Congress, rather than as individual pieces of legislation, has expedited consideration and encouraged a nonpartisan appraisal of proposals. We hope that

will prove the case with S.1237 and H.R.2200 in this Congress," Sablan said.

S. 1237 also conveys 3 miles of submerged lands to the CNMI.

A separate bill by Wyden and Murkowski, S. 256, also calls for a delay in the CNMI's annual 50-cent minimum wage increase for 2013 and 2015.

This may move faster than S. 1237 or HR 2200. However, territorial delegates such as the CNMI's are not taking any chances.

The CNMI's current minimum wage is \$5.55 an hour. It is supposed to increase by 50 cents every year until it reaches the federal wage floor of \$7.25 an hour.

The CNMI minimum wage is scheduled to increase to \$6.05 an hour in September 2013 unless delayed through legislation such as S. 1237, HR 2220 or S. 256.

Besides delaying this year's

minimum wage through legislation, the CNMI is also working to extend the CW and E2-C programs.

Sablan and Gov. Eloy S. Inos formally asked the U.S. Labor secretary to extend by five years or up to 2019 the CW program, so that the CNMI will continue to have access to over 12,000 foreign workers who have been relied upon by the local tourism-based economy.

The U.S. Department of Labor said it is already reviewing requests from the CNMI to extend the CW program.

The CNMI says it still does not have enough U.S. workers to fill the void that could be left if over 12,000 foreign workers are forced to exit the CNMI once the CW program is allowed to expire on Dec. 31, 2014.

Long-term foreign investors with E2-C status also face mass exit from the CNMI if the E2-C status is not extended beyond Dec. 31, 2014.

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Judge vacates hearing on request to intervene in Johnson's lawsuit

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood has vacated Friday's scheduled hearing on Public School System teacher Phillis M. Ain's motion to intervene in Betty Johnson's class action against the NMI Retirement Fund and the CNMI government.

Tydingco-Gatewood cancelled the hearing based on representations made by Johnson's counsel, Margery Bronster, during a status hearing on June 26.

The judge said that Bronster stated that the parties' settlement terms would address the payment of employee contributions to current employees who desire to terminate their membership in the Fund's defined benefit plan.

Ain is a member of the Fund's defined benefit plan. She seeks to terminate her membership in the Fund and recover her employee contributions, as allowed by Public Laws 17-82 and 18-2. Ain has insisted that her

interests and the interests of active employees are not adequately represented or protected by any current party to Johnson's lawsuit.

The court also earlier denied the teacher's request to participate in the Johnson's hearings as well as in the settlement discussions.

Last Wednesday, the parties in Johnson's class action reached a tentative settlement deal.

Under the proposed class settlement agreement that will be submitted for Tydingco-Gatewood's approval, \$52 million will be set aside for payment to current government employees who have elected to withdraw from the Fund.

For retirees, the tentative agreement will require paying them 75 percent of benefits.

Bronster said the government will be required to give additional funds to the Fund every year in order to meet the 75 percent obligation. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)



Saipan International School is celebrating 20 years of academic excellence.



We would like to show our continuing commitment to the CNMI by introducing our new expanded **Financial Aid Program** (up to \$2,000 per student) for Elementary age (K5 to 5) students born in the CNMI who enroll at SIS for the 2013-14 school year.

Application forms are available from the school office.
For further information please call 288 9660.
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Monday - Friday.

Deadline for submission is **July 10, 2013.**



HOT



SUMMER SAVINGS

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2004	Ford Mustang GT	83,100 miles	\$7,995
2005	Ford Ranger XL	54,500 miles	SOLD
2010	Mazda Mazda3i Sport	41,650 miles	SOLD
2011	Mazda2 Touring	25,350 miles	\$14,995
2010	Hyundai Azera Ltd.	23,700 miles	SOLD
2010	Hyundai Veracruz GLS	53,200 miles	\$17,995
2010	Hyundai Tucson GLS	22,300 miles	SOLD
2011	Kia Sportage LX	20,700 miles	\$18,995
2009	Nissan Quest S	20,050 miles	SOLD



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IMMIGRATION

From Page 1

sions that provide a pathway to citizenship for thousands of long-term, legal foreign workers and other groups of aliens here.

The U.S. Senate and House are expected to go into conference on immigration reform legislation.

The far-reaching national immigration reform bill, S. 744, passed the U.S. Senate by a vote of 68-32.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP), who worked for years to address the immigration status of long-term legal aliens in the CNMI, confirmed within minutes of the U.S. Senate's passage of the bill around 6am Friday in the CNMI that the CNMI provisions in S. 744 remained unchanged.

Sablan's efforts made it possible to include CNMI provisions in the U.S. Senate's Gang of Eight immigration bill.

These provisions, according to Sablan, "include allowing long-time CNMI residents to remain on the islands" to work there, travel in and out, and after five years apply to become U.S. permanent residents. The Northern Marianas section, which was in the bill as introduced on April 16, was never an issue during the Senate debate."

He said he remains "cautiously optimistic" about the prospects for comprehensive immigration reform now that

the spotlight shifts to the House of Representatives.

Sablan expects any House immigration bill to also include a CNMI-specific provision.

'It's about time'

Florante Dipus, a worker from the Philippines who has been working legally in the CNMI for 23 years, said, "It's about time they deal with our immigration status after all these years."

For decades, the CNMI has debated the issue of providing improved status for its long-term, legal foreign workers. Previous attempts to provide a path to improved status for these foreign workers failed.

The CNMI lost control of its immigration pursuant to U.S. Public Law 110-229 signed in 2008.

"The CNMI didn't do something about improved status for long-term foreign workers, and now the feds are doing it for us. It was the same situation when the CNMI didn't want to raise its minimum wage for a long time, until the feds did it for the CNMI. We lost our chance to do something right," Rep. Ray Tebuteb (Ind-Saipan) told *Saipan Tribune*.

Every year, thousands of legal skilled and professional foreign workers in the CNMI—including nurses, teachers, accountants, hotel employees, caregivers, and house workers—go through an annual application and approval of contract renewal regardless of whether they have been working in the

CNMI for over 20 years or just two years.

"There is no job security. Every year, you have to worry whether you will still have a job. It's harder to plan," an information technology specialist from the Philippines said, who has been working in the CNMI for 11 years.

Press secretary Angel Demapan, when asked for comment, said the administration is pleased to learn that the CNMI specific provision remains intact in the measure passed by the U.S. Senate.

"At this time it's still unclear as to what the U.S. House will decide, but the administration is hopeful that they will consider the CNMI when the time comes to consider the legislation on the floor," he said.

The U.S. Senate's remake of the nation's immigration system for the first time in a generation by spending tens of billions of dollars to fortify security along the U.S. southern border offers a pathway to citizenship to some 11 million undocumented aliens already in the United States.

However, the bill's fate in the U.S. House of Representatives remains uncertain.

House Speaker John A. Boehner (R-Ohio) said Thursday that a majority of his Republican colleagues would need to support any immigration bill voted on in the House and any potential compromise legislation negotiated with the Senate.

If S. 744 passes the House with the CNMI provision still

intact, that would allow long-term foreigners to apply for a CNMI-only status within months of the bill's enactment.

Those covered include legal foreign workers who have been in the CNMI since at least 2003, and those with U.S. citizen children regardless of the age of the children.

After an additional five-year waiting period, these aliens can start applying for U.S. permanent residence status or "green card," a pathway to U.S. citizenship.

'US borders need fixing'

Sablan said his colleagues in the House, on both sides of the aisle, understand that the national immigration system needs fixing.

"America needs to secure its borders, which is one of the primary responsibilities of the federal government. We need to decide what to do about the 11 million, who are not legally present in our country," he said in a statement.

He reiterated that America is a nation of immigrants and that immigrants have had an outsize impact on the nation's growth.

"Yet, in the Northern Mariana Islands and around our nation individuals who have become our neighbors, our friends, even members of our families have been living under a cloud of uncertainty about whether they can remain in this country. Today, the Senate voted to end that uncertainty and accept those individuals into our American community. In doing so, the

Senate affirmed the principle that we are all better off when we remove the barriers that divide us, so we can work together to build a prosperous economy and strengthen our nation now and for the future," Sablan said.

He congratulated the Senate on Thursday's "bipartisan success."

"And I especially thank the Senate Gang of 8—Senators Bennet, Durbin, Flake, Graham, McCain, Menendez, Rubio, and Schumer—for giving me the opportunity to explain the special circumstances of the Northern Marianas and for including language in their bill that will resolve the status of long-term, legal residents of our islands. This will benefit the Northern Marianas economy and ensures that families can remain together," he added.

'Not giving up'

Bonifacio Sagana, president of Dekada Movement, said yesterday that the worker group hopes that the U.S. Senate and President Barack Obama "could get the support of the majority of the lower house."

"We are aware that a lot of conservatives in the lower house oppose immigration reform. We could only hope they do the right thing, and set aside politics... Dekada is extending its appreciation to Congressman Kilili Sablan for his continued effort in adding a CNMI provision and making sure it continues to be there," he said.

Rene Reyes, founding president of the Marianas Advocates for Humanitarian Affairs Ltd., said the U.S. Senate's passage of the immigration reform bill is "historic" also for the CNMI. "This is the moment we have been waiting for. Despite negative feelings, despite what oth-

ers want to believe that the Senate bill would be defeated in the House, I believe an immigration bill will be worked out between the House and Senate, one that will consider the CNMI situation. Maybe if there's an amendment, it would be for the better. I try to be optimistic," he said.

Larry Malig, 49, said he has been working in the CNMI for 25 years and is more optimistic now than ever before about a better immigration status for long-term legal alien workers like him.

"I hope this time it's for real," he added.

There are six groups of aliens eligible to apply for a CNMI-only permanent resident status within months of S. 744's enactment into law, should the House approve it.

First group: Those persons born in the CNMI between Jan. 1, 1974, and Jan. 9, 1978.

Second group: Those persons granted CNMI permanent resident status under CNMI immigration law.

Third group: The spouse or child of the first and second groups.

Fourth group: The immediate family members of U.S. citizens, regardless of age.

Fifth group: Foreign workers in the CNMI that were admitted under CNMI immigration law five years prior to May 8, 2008, and are presently resident under CW-1 status.

Sixth group: The spouse and children of individuals in the fifth group.

The first four groups were covered in Sablan's H.R. 1466 in the previous Congress.

Sablan added two more groups to his original bill that became part of the U.S. Senate legislation, making it a "broader" version of H.R. 1466.

INVESTORS

From Page 1

partners including Igor Karapetyan, general manager of K Family LLC, bought the former Paradise Hotel across the Commonwealth Health Center last week from its previous owners.

"It was bought for some \$650,000. It has 32 rooms. We will revive the hotel. Downstairs, we will also have an Italian restaurant," Melnik told *Saipan Tribune* in an interview yesterday.

When they are done with the renovations, he projects the property to have a value of over \$1 million.

The increasing number of tourists in the CNMI is creating a lack of available hotel rooms and Melnik hopes the reopening of Paradise Hotel Saipan will help meet that need, albeit on a

smaller scale.

Melnik said he and other business partners have also been planning to establish ecotourism tours on Pagan in the Northern Islands.

"But we're holding it off because of [U.S.] military plans," he said.

The U.S. military plans to establish live-fire training ranges on Tinian and Pagan. During scoping meetings and succeeding public comment period, a number of residents opposed the use of Pagan for live-fire training ranges while others would want to make sure that Pagan could still be used for civilian purposes while the U.S. military uses portions of it.

Russian beauty expert, journalist visits Saipan

In other news, Anna Belova, a Russian beauty expert, journalist, and television personality,

discovered Saipan as a vacation spot while searching for a chiropractic services center, American Medical Center LLC, on Saipan.

Despite spending four hours at the Saipan International Airport starting at around 1am for U.S. Customs and Border Protection to clear her at the immigration counter, Belova said she still finds Saipan an ideal place for healing and vacation.

She said she would be glad to share with her followers what Saipan has to offer as a tourist destination.

She narrated her Saipan experience to reporters yesterday, with the help of businessman Igor Karapetyan, general manager of K Family LLC, which owns the Family Commercial Building in Garapan. She has also tweeted about the tourist spots she has visited on Saipan.

Belova said she found

American Medical Center LLC online, when she was looking for a chiropractor services center. That was when she discovered Saipan, CNMI as a U.S. territory.

Because of the U.S. visa waiver program for Russian and Chinese tourists visiting the CNMI and faith in American Medical Center's ability to help her correct some posture issues, Belova decided to visit Saipan from June 28 to July 4.

Dr. Jonathan Goins, American Medical Center owner/chiropractor, said yesterday he's glad that his hard work paid off and that he has clients from as far as Russia, in addition to his clients from Saipan and Tinian, as well as CNMI residents and those from Japan.

American Medical Center, with telephone numbers 2339909, is located at the Family Commercial Building in Garapan.

Child tax credit checks

The governor also said yesterday that the Department of Finance submitted \$5,460,630.26 in child tax to the IRS for certification on June 27. This covers 4,126 taxpayers.

"The IRS has advised that it takes about 15 working days to process the submitted child tax requests. Once the funds are transferred from U.S. Treasury to the Commonwealth, the Department of Finance should be able to process the claims and release the checks within two days after the transfer of funds," the governor said in a statement, released by press secretary Angel Demapan.

Taxpayers who do not receive their refund or rebate checks within the next two weeks are advised to call Finance's Division of Tax and Revenue at 664-1040/44 to verify if there is an error or issue that needs correction.

In March, during the opening of the tax filing season, Finance anticipated that the initial distribution date for the first batch of refunds would be in early August.

A refund is for tax that has been overpaid or incorrectly paid, and is returned to the taxpayer, while rebate is for tax properly paid and is subsequently returned to the taxpayer under a rebate provision.

FAREWELL

From Page 1

country, and family."

On Friday, the Senate also held a memorial tribute on Capital Hill for Crisostimo, who passed away on June 15 in Las Vegas after a long but valiant fight with throat cancer. He was 52.

Crisostimo, according to Senate President Ralph Torres (R-Saipan) and Sen. Jovita Taimanao (Ind-Rota), made a special request when he was still alive to be allowed to go back to the Senate for "one last time" should anything happen to him.

Senators took turns paying tribute to Crisostimo before a large crowd in the Senate chamber and gallery, among them Crisostimo's wife Maria and their three children: Monica, Luis Jr., and Dwight.

The governor, Lt. Gov. Jude U. Hofschneider, House of Representatives members led by acting speaker Frank Dela Cruz (IR-Saipan), other current and former officials, government employees and community members were also present.

"It was rewarding to have served with Senator Crisostimo who was a staunch supporter of legislation that would benefit the entire Commonwealth and

of utmost importance to him were issues that affected Northern Marianas descents," Torres said at the memorial service.

Rep. Ray Tebuteb (Ind-Saipan), in his brief remarks, said Crisostimo "walked the halls and chambers of this legislative house with dignity and respect."

"To the family of the late honorable Luis Palacios Crisostimo...be proud of your dearly beloved's accomplishment as a public servant. His voice may not be loud, but his actions and his excellence spoke loudly of him. His name is appended into the history book of our Commonwealth. He is now at peace, and we shall, someday, be reunited," Tebuteb said.

Taimanao, meanwhile, asked that the song *Hero* by Mariah Carey be played during the memorial tribute, saying that's how Crisostimo was—"a hero to us."

Gus Kaipat, meanwhile, sang *Sailing* as a special tribute to Crisostimo.

The Senate presented a copy of its resolution honoring Crisostimo, to his family on Friday. More special tributes and resolutions were presented on Saturday at Mount Carmel Cathedral prior to a Mass.

Crisostimo, born on Nov. 26, 1960, served four terms at the CNMI Senate, from the 14th to the 17th Legislatures.

REBATE

From Page 1

expenses," he told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

Moren Bahia, 30, meanwhile, said he's expecting only \$40 in rebate check, which he would use to buy grocery items.

"It's really not much but at least I have \$40 to buy food," the Garapan resident added.

The governor said yesterday that the first batch of 203 checks totaling \$274,605.22 was released to Bank of Saipan and Express Financial for those who availed of the tax loans on Friday.

Inos hands off on CPA matters

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

Gov. Eloy S. Inos said that he will respect the autonomy of the Commonwealth Ports Authority and its board, especially in the appointment and selection of the agency's executive director.

"The selection for the executive director is a matter for the CPA board to decide. I don't want to go in and dictate. My goal is to make sure that the board and I agree on certain objectives. With that, they should do the right thing," Inos told *Saipan Tribune* during a recent proclamation ceremony at the public hospital.

CPA is looking for a permanent executive director after its board fired last month Fitial administration-backed Edward Deleon Guerrero.

When asked if he supports any particular candidate for the top CPA post, the governor said no.

Man gets 3-day prison term for punching father-in-law

A 28-year-old man who punched his father-in-law has been sentenced to three days in prison.

Eric A. Raponei pleaded guilty last week to assault and battery.

Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo sentenced him to a year in prison, all suspended with credit for three days time-served. This means Raponei would no longer serve further jail time.

Raponei was placed on supervised probation for one year and was required to pay a \$500 fine, \$100 probation

"I hope you understand that this [administration] is a little different from what used to be in the past," he told *Saipan Tribune*, without elaborating.

The CPA board recently lowered its qualification requirements for the executive director post and reduced the salary of-

» Acting executive director tightens agency's financial controls

ment closed Friday.

It was learned that the agency received some applications, mostly from off-island candidates.

Meantime, *Saipan Tribune* learned that interim executive director MaryAnn Lizama is tightening the agency's fiscal administration.

Sources disclosed that a memorandum was recently issued to all division managers on three islands, directing them to maintain discipline and control in all compensatory time hours.

She notified all CPA person-

nel that any and all compensatory time shall be requested and approved prior to the date of request. All unauthorized compensatory

'Proposed departure fee on Managaha a bit too high'

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Saipan Mayor Donald Flores described the proposed increase in the fee to visit Managaha as a "bit too high" for tourists wanting to explore the island.

In his comments on House Bill 18-14, which recommends a departure fee on Managaha, Flores said the bill's implementation will "make it expensive for any nonresident to enjoy a relaxing visit to the island. With a current fee of \$5 for landing and another fee

time will be denied and rejected.

Furthermore, Lizama reminded that department heads are accountable for the scheduling of their staff in terms of addressing manpower shortage.

The same memorandum en-

couraged managers to reduce the agency's overtime cost and discourage overtime and unauthorized comp time.

Saipan Tribune's calls and email inquiries on how much the agency is incurring in

overtime/comp time failed to get a response.

Lizama recently named Skye Aldan as acting CPA comptroller following the non-renewal of Derek Sasamoto's employment contract.

of \$5 for departing the island as proposed, the cost will be a bit too high for a day's visit to Managaha, assuming other expenses are factored in."

Flores' comments were addressed to the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation and were sent on June 13.

The mayor also foresees a potential conflict arising between the Public Lands Department, its concessionaires, and the Department of Lands and Natural Resources on who will be charged with the responsibility of collecting the departure fee.

"Unless DLNR will enforce collection from all points of embarkation on Saipan, a potential turf war might ensue if and when DLNR decides to carry out its task to collect the departure fee on Managaha," said Flores.

However, if the bill is enacted, Flores said the Saipan municipality must be given a share of this revenue so it could use the money to repair and replace its dilapidated heavy equipment and other needs.

"As provided in the bill, revenue to be generated from the

departure fee will solely be derived from nonresidents (tourists, visitors on business, etc). These are visitors we want to impress that our island is beautiful, clean, safe, and well kept. To keep our Saipan beautiful, safe, clean and well kept we need funding. We highly encourage the local delegation to set aside an amount by appropriating it to the mayor's office of Saipan, which will pay expenses for fuel and lubricants, supplies, repairs of heavy equipment, and others," added the mayor.



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PSS nixes bill proposing election for teachers' rep

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

»Muña sworn in as new student rep to BOE

The Public School System has formally rejected the Legislature's recommendation to hold an election among its teachers to determine their representative on the State Board of Education.

Education Commissioner Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D., and BOE legislative intergovernmental affairs committee chair Lucy Blanco-Maratita told lawmakers that Senate Bill 18-20, SS1 does not reflect the true desire of PSS teachers.

According to Blanco-Maratita, PSS teachers prefer the overall Teacher of the Year to be their voice on the board.

This year's CNMI Teacher of the Year is Peter Loken of Garapan Elementary School.

The Senate bill, which is currently pending in the House education committee, seeks to fill the public school teachers' representative post on the board via an election among all teachers.

Blanco-Maratita disclosed that the teachers' desire to have the overall TOY awardee as their voice on the board came out during a survey conducted by Sablan's office in December, the results of which were announced in February.

Under the law, public school teachers are supposed to have one non-voting representative on the Board of Education. The last



Board of Education chair Herman T. Guerrero, right, swears in student representative Michaelle Marie Muña during Wednesday's meeting. Also in photo are the new board member's parents, Maria and Michael Muña.

PSS teachers' representative was Ambrose Bennett, whose term expired in January 2008. Nobody has succeeded him since then due to constitutional issues raised in the selection process.

During Wednesday's board meeting, BOE chair Herman T. Guerrero described the bill's

recommended process as a more "complicated" option because whoever is elected by teachers will still require the governor's appointment.

Past administrations and legislatures have failed to respond to PSS and board requests to fill this vacancy.

In 2011, the BOE provided the Legislature "starting points" for the selection of a teachers' representative, to no avail.

Sablan earlier told Saipan Tribune that the appointment of a PSS teachers' representative on the BOE is "long overdue." In the meantime, Sablan consults

with teachers through an advisory panel that she created. Despite the existence of this panel, she believes that there's still a need for all parties to be formally represented on the board.

"Based on the results of the survey, PSS teachers want to have the CNMI PSS Teacher of

the Year appointed to the position. Because this bill does not reflect the will of teachers, PSS cannot support it at this time," stated a joint letter that PSS and the BOE recently submitted to the House education panel.

For Blanco-Maratita, the intent to resolve the issue of a teachers' rep on the board is commendable but the process offered must be amended to allow for the choice already recommended by PSS teachers.

The private school teachers' representative on the board is Galvin Deleon Guerrero. The student rep is Michaelle Marie Muña. All three positions are non-voting.

Muña was officially sworn into office by BOE chair Guerrero last Wednesday in the presence of her parents, education officials, and board members.

Muña, a senior student of Kagman High who recently won in an election in her campus, was appointed by the governor last month. On Wednesday, she vowed to do her best to effectively represent the voice of public school students.

The governor is the appointing authority for the honorary members of the education board. These positions include public schools teachers' representative, private school teachers' representative, and students' representative. The five other voting members of the BOE are elected.

Kilili praises choice of Mayorkas for DHS Deputy Secretary

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) has praised the nomination of Alejandro Mayorkas to be Deputy Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security. President Obama announced his selection of Mayorkas on Thursday.

Mayorkas has served as the Director of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services since the beginning of Obama's administration in 2009 and presided over the transition from local to federal responsibility for immigration in the Northern Mariana Islands.

"The Northern Mariana Islands could not ask for anyone more knowledgeable about our immigration issues to serve as second in command at Homeland Security than Alejandro Mayorkas," said Sablan. "Throughout his time as head of USCIS he has been responsible for numerous decisions that have made the transition to federal immigration less difficult and more humane. I congratulate Director Mayorkas on his nomination; and I thank President Obama for making a wise choice."

Like so many of the people whose lives he has been responsible for as Director of USCIS, Mayorkas is an immigrant. He was born in Havana, Cuba and came to the United States as a baby.

"I understand deeply the experience of the people who come before us. I speak therefore not just with passion but I think with standing, and I share those sensitivities with my colleagues," Mayorkas told the Washington Post in a 2010 interview.

Mayorkas demonstrated this hands-on leadership, when he personally telephoned Sablan on Thanksgiving Day in 2011. Mayorkas informed Sablan of the decision to make humanitarian parole available through the end of 2012 to all of the people who would be covered by Sablan's immigration bill, H.R. 1466. Sablan has been urging USCIS to make that policy call to allow more time for Congress to act on his bill.

This parole opportunity gave people who might otherwise have been forced to leave the Commonwealth the ability to remain in the islands legally and to work.

Included were persons born in the Northern Marianas between 1974 and 1978, who were not U.S. citizens, and persons with Northern Marianas permanent resident status. The immediate relatives of these two groups were also eligible for the parole, as were the immediate relatives of U.S. citizens. All of these groups had legal status under Commonwealth immigration law.

One year later, again at Sablan's urging, Mayorkas provided a two-year extension of the parole eligibility.

As USCIS Director, Mayorkas also had a direct role in the decision to provide humanitarian parole to caregivers in the Northern Marianas. In September 2011 Mayorkas sent a team of officials to the islands to provide the public with information about the ongoing immigration transition, as well as to observe the practical effects on-the-ground.

Sablan used the opportunity to highlight the dilemma for families who were dependent on foreign workers to help care for man'amko, medical patients, or children with special needs. The families had no way to continue employing the caregivers under the new federal immigration law.

Sablan hosted a meeting for the USCIS team and some of the families and caregivers at the congressional office on Sept. 22. A month later, Mayorkas announced that the caregivers would be eligible for humanitarian parole.

"Of course, ultimately the President himself and Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano are responsible for all these decisions," Sablan acknowledged, "and the hard-working and sensitive staff up and down the line at USCIS provided information and advice that help shape the policies."

"But Director Mayorkas has really been the focal point throughout this transition."

"Should comprehensive immigration reform legislation make it through Congress and be signed by the President," Sablan added, "then, as Deputy Secretary, Alejandro Mayorkas will be in a position to continue to bring his deep understanding to issues of implementation in the Northern Mariana Islands."

Mayorkas served first as as-

sistant United States attorney then as United States attorney for the Central District of California in the administrations of Presidents George W. Bush and Bill Clinton. He was a partner at O'Melveny & Myers LLP from 2001 to 2009.

According to the White House announcement, Mayorkas has served on the boards of Bet Tzedek Legal Services and United Friends of the Children, as chair of the American Bar Association Committee on Ethics and Professionalism, and as a Commissioner for the California Commission on the Fair Administration of Justice.

He received a B.A. from University of California at Berkeley and a J.D. from Loyola Law School. (PR)



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Wishing our son Joven T. Reyes a belated happy birthday! We wish you all the best on your special day, boy, and ask the Lord for his continued guidance to guide you and bless you with many, many more blessed and happy years to come. We love you, boy! From your families and friends.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Belated happy sweet 16 to Emily Rose DeWitt, who celebrated her special day on June 29! We love you. Greetings come from your family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Governor extends CHC emergency anew

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Eloy S. Inos extended yesterday for another 30 days the state of emergency declaration for the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., days after extending anew the emergency declaration for the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

The governor's latest executive order on CHC continues to suspend applicable procurement regulations he authorized, so as to ensure timely compliance with U.S. Center for Medicare and Medicaid's certification requirements.

To ensure that the suspension of regulatory provisions does not lead to financial abuse, the emergency declaration also incorporates the March 19, 2012, Memorandum of Understanding between CHC and the Department of Finance, Office Management and Bud-

get, and Office of the Attorney General.

"In addition, any financial reports submitted by the CHC pursuant to the MOU must be submitted with a certification of the person submitting them stating that the reports are a full and accurate under penalty of perjury," the governor said in his June 30 EO No. 2013-13.

The EO also paves the way for reprogramming of funds to meet CHC needs.

In 2012, CHC was notified by federal authorities that, due to deficiencies in CHC opera-

tions and infrastructure, CHC will cease to be eligible for Medicare/Medicaid payments along with other penalties if the deficiencies are not promptly remedied. Federal authorities gave CHC a temporary reprieve.

The governor said yesterday that "a final decision on CHC eligibility for Medicare/Medicaid payments is quickly approaching such that prompt steps need to be taken to meet the federal requirements or Medicare/Medicaid funding will be ended."

"The termination of Medicare/Medicaid funding will

lead to the termination or reduction of many of the medical programs and services provided by CHC, leading to an increase in otherwise preventable deaths, illness, and injury," Inos said.

The governor added that the management of CHC is unstable given the recent termination of the chief executive officer of CHC and no permanent chief executive officer having yet been appointed, "such that it may hinder CHC's ability to meet federal requirements."

Inos said the state of emergency declaration for CHC "is necessary to protect the health and safety of all CNMI residents and visitors."



Inos

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HEALTH CARE IMPACT TAX BILL (HB 18-34) & NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES (NCDs)

FACT #1

HB 18-34 aims to increase the sin tax on tobacco and alcohol and introduce a sin tax on sugar-sweetened beverages (SSB); the most critical risks associated with NCDs.

FACT #2

About 7 out of 10 deaths in the CNMI are due to NCDs (i.e. heart disease, stroke, cancer and diabetes).

FACT #3

CHC reported a 126% (N=34) increase in newly registered dialysis patients in 2012 compared to 2011 (N=27).

FACT #4

PSS reported in 2013 that 57% of students are at risk of obesity.

FACT #5

The 2011 CNMI Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) revealed current alcohol use among high school students have increased to 41.4%. - National Institute of Health

FACT #6

Tobacco abuse is the single most critical risk factor related to the leading chronic diseases in the CNMI—cancer, heart disease, and emphysema.

FACT #7

Children born in the year 2000s will be the "first generation who would die before their parents due to NCDs."

FACT #8

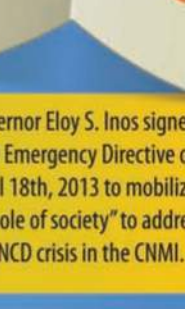
Evidence shows that a higher tax is the most effective way to reduce use of the sin tax products, especially among the youth and the poor.

FACT #9

HB18-34 aims to: 1) Reduce use and limit access of unhealthy products; and 2) Fund NCD prevention, medical care cost and MPLT loan.

FACT #10

Governor Eloy S. Inos signed a NCD Emergency Directive on April 18th, 2013 to mobilize "whole of society" to address the NCD crisis in the CNMI.



*More facts and data sources are available by emailing: chcpubhealth@gmail.com .
CHCC Division of Public Health Services HB18-34 & NCDs Fact Sheet Version 2 (05/23/13)

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

July 1, 2005

Another hiccup in Verizon sale

The Commonwealth Telecommunications Commission's final order that gave the go-signal for the proposed multi-million-dollar sale of Verizon to Pacific Telecom Inc. may not be final after all. Beating yesterday's deadline to file requests for reconsideration, Micronesian Telecommunications Corp. and PTI—and intervenors Gov. Juan N. Babauta and CNMI consumer counsel Brian Caldwell—separately filed their respective pleadings that wants the CTC's final order to be modified. PTI is requesting changes to some of the conditions set forth in the final order, which it referred to as unnecessary extension of the CTC's regulatory authority over the companies' financial affairs.

23 CHC nurses pass NCLEX

Twenty-three of the 25 nurses working at the Commonwealth Health Center who were required to take the National Council Licensure Examination this year passed the exam, representing a passing rate of 92 percent. According to administrative services manager Marciana Igitol, there were 35 hospital nurses who were required to take the NCLEX to secure their tenure in the hospital, but only 25 of them took on the challenge. Four more of the nurses took the NCLEX and passed the exam during a separate examination date, increasing the list of successful examinees to 27 registered nurses this year. The contracts of the four successful examinees expired in June.

July 1, 2006

DOJ to FCC: Defer action on Docomo's transaction

The U.S. Department of Justice has asked the Federal Communications Commission to defer action on Japan's NTT DoCoMo Inc.'s application for assignment and transfer of control of Guam Cellular and Paging Inc. and Guam Wireless Telephone Co. LLC. to DoCoMo. TeleGuam Holdings LLC—the parent company of Guam exchange carrier GTA—has also asked FCC to deny the proposed assignment and transfer of control, raising security concerns. These actions could delay the proposed merger of GuamCell, SaipanCell, and Hafatel into one company under DoCoMo.

CPA and MVA work out plan for Rota flights

Faced with a likely loss of international reservation system, ports and tourism authorities are mapping out a plan to convince Continental Micronesia from suspending its flights to Rota in October this year. Commonwealth Ports Authority consultant Carlos H. Salas said yesterday that a meeting among local officials is set on Monday, July 3, on Saipan. "We'll meet among ourselves first. We'll decide what specific options we can bring to the table when we meet with airline officials," said Salas. This meeting will be attended by the local delegation that flew to Guam last week for a dialogue with the airlines officials.

July 1, 2007

Petition proponents to ratchet up their efforts

The citizen group is stepping up efforts to gather support behind a petition for enhanced legislative transparency, as the deadline draws near for initiative petitions. Organizer Tina Sablan said the group will hit the Liberation Day parade on Wednesday to collect more signatures for the initiative petition to extend the Open Government Act to the Legislature. Petitions to pass a law must be submitted by Friday, July 6, 2007, to the Attorney General's Office for review. The AGO will check if the petition has met legal requirements in order to be put on the ballot. One of the requirements is that the petition must be signed by at least 20 percent of registered voters.

House backs new entry permit category for foreign retirees

The House of Representatives has passed legislation to create a foreign retiree entry permit that would allow affluent senior citizens to stay in the CNMI for four years. House Bill 15-47 will now head to the Senate for approval. Under the bill, a foreign national aged 55 or over who wishes to enter the CNMI as a visitor for business or pleasure may apply for the foreign retiree entry permit. To qualify for the permit, the foreign retiree must prove that he or she can afford the trip, has not been convicted of a felony, has satisfied health requirements, and has secured a place to stay during his or her visit.

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Opinion

Hafa Adali

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXIII, Issue No. 129Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
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EDITORIAL

The DOMA decision ripple effect

Supporters of equality for gays and lesbians are exulting in Wednesday's rulings by the Supreme Court, and we share in their celebration. Although the court did not rule, as we had hoped, that all prohibitions on same-sex marriage violate the Constitution, its invalidation of part of the Defense of Marriage Act dramatically advances the cause of marriage equality. So does its ruling that proponents of California's Proposition 8 lacked legal standing to challenge a federal judge's holding that the initiative was unconstitutional. As a practical matter, that decision legalizes same-sex marriage in this state.

Not long ago, full legal recognition of same-sex couples seemed an exotic and unattainable goal. Even after these decisions, most states don't permit same-sex marriage. But the trend is unmistakable. As President Barack Obama eloquently put it: "The laws of our land are catching up to the fundamental truth that millions of Americans hold in our hearts: When all Americans are treated as equal, no matter who they are or whom they love, we are all more free."

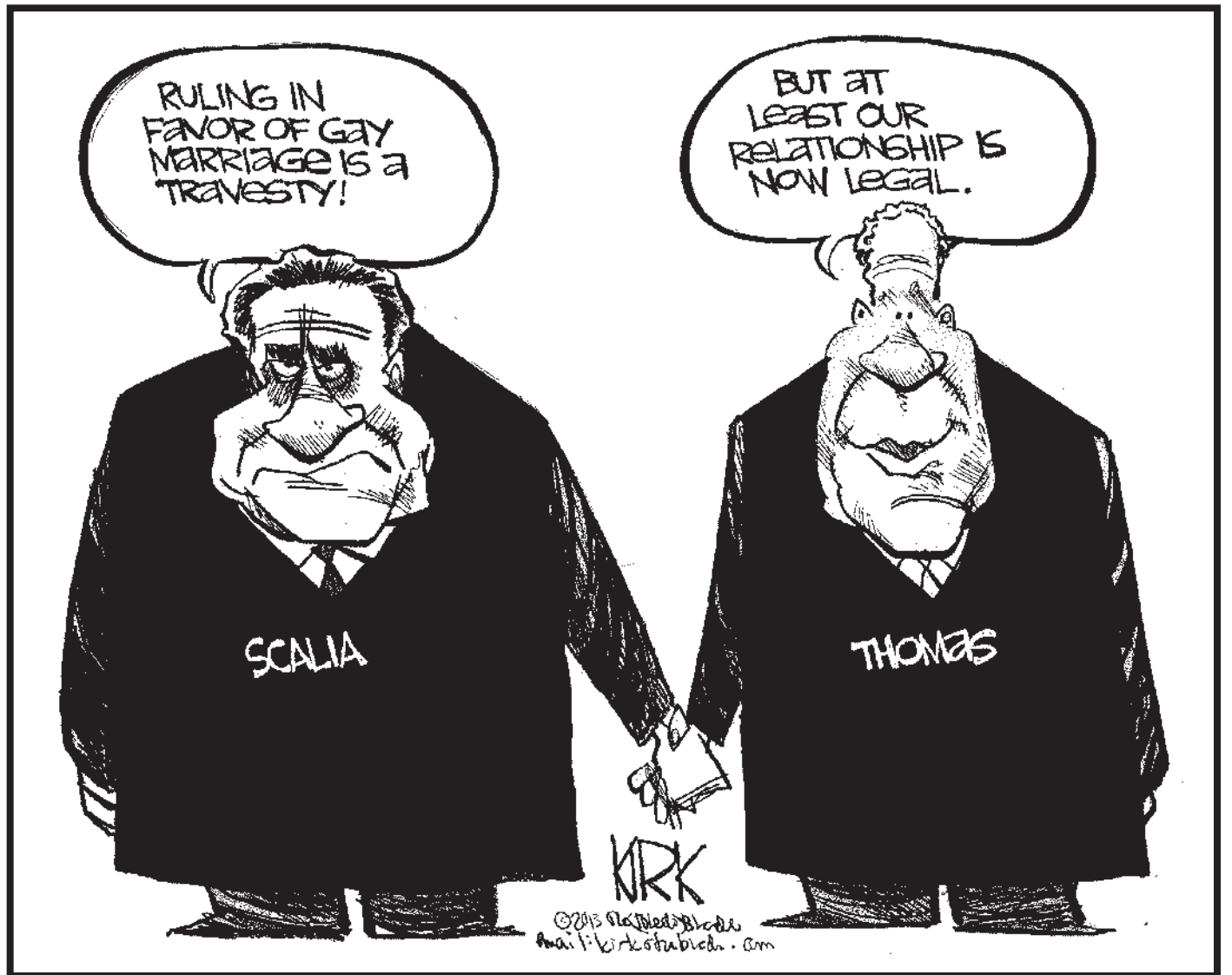
The Defense of Marriage Act was enacted by Congress in a panic in 1996 and signed by President Bill Clinton, who since has repented of his action. One provision, which was not an issue in Wednesday's decision, allows states to refuse to recognize same-sex marriages from other states. The other defines marriage for federal purposes as the union of one man and one woman, denying legally married same-sex couples a wealth of benefits and protections.

That section was challenged by Edith Windsor, an 84-year-old widow who had to pay \$363,000 in federal estate taxes after the death of her spouse because she was ineligible for a spousal deduction. The two women were married in Canada and lived in New York, where same-sex marriage is legal. In ruling for Windsor, the Supreme Court cited both the traditional right of states to define marriage and the fact that, by withholding recognition of same-sex marriages, Congress had imposed a stigma on same-sex couples.

In his majority opinion, Justice Anthony M. Kennedy wrote that DOMA "places same-sex couples in an unstable position of being in a second-tier marriage. The differentiation demeans the couple, whose moral and sexual choices the Constitution protects." Kennedy said that DOMA's derogation of same-sex married couples raised "a most serious question" under the Fifth Amendment, which requires the "equal liberty of persons."

Justice Antonin Scalia dissented, accusing Kennedy of laying the groundwork for a ruling invalidating state laws against same-sex marriage. (He wrote that "it is just a matter of listening and waiting for the other shoe.") As much as we would approve of such a decision, Wednesday's ruling doesn't require states to allow same-sex marriages. But it could increase the pressure on states to do so, not just because of its symbolic weight but because states that legalize same-sex marriage in the future will be making it possible for their citizens to receive material benefits from the federal government. Important as it is in its own terms, the DOMA decision could—and we hope will—have a dramatic ripple effect.

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Saipan Jack

Slashed on tabloid infamy was Jack Abramoff, one of the celebrated con artists of the U.S. Congress lobbying ilk, aka "Saipan Jack" to fellow criminals. Quietly earning that same appellation in his frequent presence in Saipan's community gatherings was the Jack Hardy of our acquaintance, ex-surgeon, a shutterbug, and consummate volunteer, few of words but radiant in smiles, and winsome with the images he captures one click at a time. Some of his photos can be viewed in "saipanjack's photos," www.photographypeople.com. He is, to many of us, the real Saipan Jack.

The retired MD does not look 89 in his years. It would have been more than a couple of years ago when we last ran into him at the Garapan Street Market, without his signature scarf though still sporting the beard. We exchanged civil nods as we recall his photo shop already ceded to a Pinoy colleague. He was just merrily hanging out as he usually did in the numerous occasions we chanced upon his presence, be it at the Sabalu market (viewing his worldwide panoramic take is a visual experience and a half), or any of the community functions where he was ever, though quietly, in attendance.

This is not a tribute to Jack, and I am sure he would share the sentiment expressed by the irrepressible Ruth Tighe: "You might have eulogized me before my time." Tributes to Jack are better handled elsewhere. Our reflection is on the community of folks we ran into on Saipan, for which such term as "human" would be applicable.

We decided to be part of oikumene late in the '70s, after we returned from a turbulent educational sojourn in Civil Rights-challenged and Vietnam War-weary US of A, holding an academic degree in Theology but without the professional ties to a religious body. We grew up in a Methodist Church parsonage, and after attending the denomination's uniting General Conference in Dallas, Texas, I thought there might be a possibility of another reformation within my own religious body.

My colleagues in the Philippines thought I was crazy to return. I did not have to, and being U.S. educated with a Caucasian bride in a country that apes anything "stateside," I was sure to get a choice appointment to a position away from many who lined up to get it. Diplomatically, I deferred to the denomination's Young Turks and washed the requisite "dishes" in the ecclesiastical kitchen to get properly ordained.

Paying my dues was hastened when fellow Ilocano Ferdinand Marcos declared martial law. This was September '72. Korea's Park Chung Hee's military coup in '61, legitimized in a '63 presidential election, supported the U.S. presence in Vietnam inherited by Nixon in '68 from JFK-Johnson. Nixon let his left hand secretly carpet bomb Cambodia, while his right hand offered the olive branch to Mao Zedong. The astute politician readily won his re-election that

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime R. Vergara is an ordained minister of the United Methodist Church and was pastor of Saipan Immanuel UMC at the second millenium's turn. He now writes from China.



year. Park, short of a month after Marcos, declared martial law in Korea as well.

Serendipitously, we moved to an experimental family religious order the day martial law was declared in Pea Eye that later led us to volunteer to the global staff of Chicago's Institute of Cultural Affairs.

We rehearse this part of our historical memory as context to why I moved out from the Rolex group-supported Marcos' conjugal dictatorship cooked out of Korea into 10 years of globe-trotting for globalizing pedagogy at community levels, including Samoa and Tonga. We resided in the Marshall Islands where we immersed our self into Micronesia, including a one-year appointment with UMC Guam.

I was a glocal citizen delving in human development with methods that found a receptive market. Unfortunately, the otherwise regional approach to natural resource management then breaking loose of governmental and agency programs, the watershed in Southeast Asia, got stuck in funding squabbles and reams of paperwork. Our expert consulting took on the flavor of prostitution.

Fast forward to an invitation to serve the Saipan Immanuel UMC, we revived our "ordained" status and embraced the warm welcome of the Saipan lagoon. That came through from a struggling but generous young Korean hotelier, a bedridden spirit woman and her Malayalam son that got me into the Chamber of Commerce, and the indefatigable Gary Bradley, S.J. A hundred more followed their lead, including visionaries and social activists, gurus and contemplatives, driven as well as foul-mouthed school principals, lawyers tame and wild, even all the ladies of both gender serving in the BOE, some occasionally making their way and finding their names in my musings.

Jack is one of the humans among our acquaintances. Now he is heading for Ecuador. We are not privy to his reasons but we can speculate on the attraction of the equatorial climate and, presumably, proximity to stateside relations. His photo database includes shots from Panama so he obviously has been to that part of the world. We had served in Guatemala, Venezuela, and Peru, so we can triangulate and imagine the environment of his next phase of shutter bugging.

A trip to the Galapagos, Jack?

On Saipan, we know that when the tide comes and reaches footprints in the sand, they are washed away one by one, alas, even from the protective shores of Saipan's lagoon. We move on.

Journey on, Jack, journey on!

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Trusted cancer organizations

The term “cancer” instantly triggers that powerful sense of fear among us. It’s painful for those with loved ones who have died from the scourge. Thus, we show our grand sense of humanity, community, and generosity dropping change in grocery store boxes or at an organized event.

But I came across a CNN investigative piece into cancer organizations between Tennessee and Arizona. It raised my curiosity about where money is spent or contributions donors give in the belief they’ve given generously to “cancer patients.” There’s no ill intent here, just sharing what you should be wary of.

“Knoxville, Tennessee, is the headquarters of a family conglomerate of cancer charities that return lavish salaries to their owners but, according to their own tax records, donate very little to dying cancer patients, and the last thing the people running this charity want to do is answer questions,” according to an investigative piece by CNN of 15 June.

“Across the country, in Mesa, Arizona, is another outpost of the conglomerate called the Breast Cancer Society. Its CEO and executive director, James Reynolds Jr., did everything to avoid an on-camera interview with CNN’s Drew Griffin.

“Back in Knoxville, there is another cancer charity, the Children’s Cancer Fund of America, and this one run by yet another member of the family, Rose Perkins, who also did everything to avoid an interview, suggesting that questions be sent via email.

“Rose Perkins, the CEO of the Children’s Cancer Fund, is paid \$227,442 a year. Her ex-husband, James Reynolds Sr., is president and CEO of Cancer Fund of America. He gets paid \$236,815. And James Reynolds Jr., president and CEO of the Breast Cancer Society, has a salary of \$261,609. Seems a replica of *All My Children*, a TV soap opera.

“It’s money that comes from donors like you who in 2011 sent these three charities \$26 million in cash. How much of those donations actually went to helping cancer patients?

“According to the charity tax records, about 2 percent in cash. Example, the Cancer Fund of America raised \$6 million through its fundraising campaign in 2011 and gave away just \$14,940 in cash. But that is not what you would hear from the telemarketers hired by the Cancer Fund of America run by James Reynolds Sr.

“The callers were telemarketers being paid to make the call. The state of Iowa fined the telemarketing company \$35,000 for making false representations. As for donations to other charities, the Cancer Fund of America claimed on its 2011 tax filings it sent \$761,000 in so-called “gifts in kind,” not actual cash, to churches, some hospitals and other programs around the country.

“When we called or e-mailed those other charities to check, many of them said they did get something, things like these supplies. But several of the groups told us they never heard of the Cancer Fund of America or don’t remember getting a thing.

“The cancer fund also takes credit for serving as a middleman, brokering transfer of another \$16 million worth of gifts in kind to individuals and other charities, many of them overseas. Those contributions double up both as revenue and donations on the same tax forms.

“Back at the Cancer Fund of America’s corporate office, even the chief financial officer, who by the way has a salary of \$121,000, couldn’t explain what was happening. About the only thing Griffin received from the elder Reynolds was a message of a single finger salute.”

The Chamolinian Cowboy

In speaking, engaging both the brain and mouth is a difficult thing to do. Most folks can’t fathom it, especially as issues hit significant level of complexity. Some would chance it while others fade into the darker side of the canopy.

Frankly, I have nothing short of admiration for those who move into center stage to demonstrate that in fact there’s such a thing as the Chamolinian Cowboy. Yep! He or she would come out look-

Five reasons to worry about US debt

By ALISON ACOSTA FRASER
THE HERITAGE FOUNDATION

To read the news, you’d think America’s fiscal problems are under control. After all, following four years of \$1 trillion-plus deficits, this year’s will be “only” \$642 billion. And Congress actually cut spending this year by letting the sequester happen.

So rather than worry about the debt, some are using this “progress” as a reason to focus on jobs and the economy. But this would be wrong.

Here are the facts: The sequester cuts affected only a part of the budget and shaved just 2.4 percent of all spending over the next decade. It left entitlements, the largest and fastest growing part of the budget, essentially untouched. So even though some programs really were cut, total spending barely budged this year. Next year it will take off again.

While deficits are smaller now, by the end of a decade they’ll be back up around the \$1 trillion mark. And they will soar as Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid and Obamacare costs skyrocket. All this mounting spending will only add to the already huge levels of federal debt.

Debt held by the public will jump from \$11 trillion in 2012 to \$19 trillion by 2023, a 73 percent increase. We will reach the debt limit

again shortly. The debt limit includes both publicly held debt and debt owed to federal trust funds such as Social Security’s. Today it is more than 100 percent of GDP—at \$16.7 trillion and climbing. But it will swell to \$25 trillion after a decade.

So for those who think our federal finances are improving and the job is done ... think again. Debt does matter.

First, high levels of debt mean that too many of our taxpayer dollars are wasted on paying interest. This is money that could have been better spent elsewhere, by letting us all keep more of our hard-earned money or by better funding national priorities such as defense.

Second, when debt gets high enough or rises fast enough, capital markets will notice and interest rates will rise. Worse, this can happen quickly and dramatically. Interest rates on mortgages, car loans and credit cards would go through the roof. Capital would immediately become more expensive, putting the dream of owning or expanding a business—and the jobs that go with that—out of reach for many. That interest rates haven’t risen yet is merely the result of the Federal Reserve’s quantitative easing policies and foreign investors seeing the U.S. as the best bet in a risky world. Both are a temporary anesthesia that will soon wear off.

Third, inflation could become a problem. As debt rises, the Federal Reserve could turn to an age-old, but dangerous tactic: printing money. This would reduce the value of the debt, but it would also usher in a new age of inflation. For younger Americans, inflation is

July 4 an occasion to commemorate our roots

By KATHY KO CHIN
THE PROGRESSIVE MEDIA PROJECT

For me, July 4 is special because it celebrates what Lady Liberty symbolizes—our shared immigrant roots.

Immigrants come to the United States from different places and for various reasons. Some come to leave behind a life of poverty. Others come to escape war and oppression.

But they all come with one common goal in mind: to make a better life for themselves and their families. And immigrants continue to contribute to the vitality and economic engine of this country.

My dad, who came to the United States from China with just \$24 in his pocket, achieved the American Dream. Two years after arriving in the United States, he earned a master’s degree in electrical engineering. Five years after that, he earned his Ph.D.

In 55 years of teaching, he’s trained 180 graduate students, some of whom have gone on to start Silicon Valley companies. What he’s contributed to this nation, in the form of intellectual capital, is much more than what he’s received in financial benefits.

The same holds true for the Chinese immigrants who came here in the late 1800s. They toiled for long hours for cheap wages on farms, in mines and along the railroad tracks.

Rampant xenophobia led to passage of the Chinese Exclusion Act in 1882, and Chinese immigrants were detained and interrogated at the Angel Island Immigration Station in San Francisco Bay. Immigrants were left to languish at Angel Island for weeks, months, sometimes even years. But they were never deterred because they knew America promised the pursuit of life, liberty and happiness.

Today, it’s shocking that some immigrants to this country still have to endure an immigrant experience similar to that of those Chinese immigrants who were held at Angel Island.

We can’t abide that in the year 2013. That’s why we need immigration reform. But it must be comprehensive, and it must give everyone an equal chance.

I wonder if my dad would have made it through the new point system that is now being proposed in the immigration reform bill before Congress. This system would give preference to immigrants with the best skills, employment history and educational credentials.

By JOHN DELROSARIO

Special to the Saipan Tribune



John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.

ing intelligent—never mind credentials, IQ, analytical ability, credibility, integrity, common sense or logic—shifting into first gear to unload fully-honed hypocrisy. You quizzically ask: Hypocrisy?

There’s what I’ve coined “half-cocked cultural paragons” comprised of an elitist group who spout cultural preservation while simultaneously offering the perfect issue for the violation and destruction of culture. At sunset, you ease into analyzing what the spider spouted as he came down the tree branch in his dense forest.

Said he: “We must join hands to strengthen cultural preservation as indigenous people. But I also want you to support casino gambling for it is good for this archipelago.” Preservation and violation in the same thoughtless sentence is asymmetrical—non sequitur—or purely illogical. You want cultural preservation yet wish to infuse a major industry that would ruin it all?

Said Buddy Magoo, “I don’t know Maria!” It’s when he blows his signature sigh that I think it’s good to end the conversation and head back to my taro and banana garden.

■ ■ ■

After sixty years of marriage, the good old lady built the nerve to complain to her hubby: “You know, in our lifetime you never gave me any thoughtful gift.” Hubby replied, “All these years too, I looked and looked and looked and figured a pair of slippers is what you need to cover your filthy, fat feet. That is being very thoughtful!” Ooops! She no like *da kine* too close to the dirt downstairs! Maybe quadruple size PJs would do the job, pops.

almost an abstract concept since it has been so tame in recent years. But for many, the memories of everything we buy costing dramatically and persistently more is too real. Inflation is most insidious for the elderly, living on fixed incomes and watching the costs of everything from food to medicine soar with no way out.

Fourth, high levels of debt usually translate to much lower levels of economic growth. There is a growing body of evidence and rich economic studies that bear this out. For countries with debt at 90 percent of GDP, that growth can be nearly 25 percent slower, higher levels of debt mean even slower growth. So what does this mean for you and me? Fewer jobs and lower wages. And fewer opportunities, particularly for younger generations. This is bad enough, but U.S. debt is on track to reach 200 percent of GDP within a generation or so.

Fifth, this is not just an economic issue, this is also a moral issue. Put simply, running up massive debts and passing them on to younger generations is wrong, whether for a family or a government.

Washington’s progress on spending and debt is woefully inadequate. Rather than high-fiving over the deficit, lawmakers should promise us this year’s progress will be a first step toward more substantive and lasting steps to rein in spending and reform entitlements.

Alison Acosta Fraser is director of the Roe Institute of Economic Policy Studies at The Heritage Foundation (heritage.org).

While that might sound reasonable, it doesn’t give everyone a fair chance, including those, like my father, who came here with nothing. In addition, it would disfavor women, people who volunteer, those with no formal education, elderly adults and “applicants from less-developed countries,” according to the Immigration Policy Center.

Our congressional leaders hold in their hands the dreams of millions of immigrants—those with higher education and those without, skilled and low-wage workers—who are looking to fulfill their life’s ambitions.

Let us not trample on their dreams.






Let us lift up our lamps, as Lady Liberty does, to shine the pathway to citizenship so that by next July 4, many new Americans will line the parade route, celebrating what is great about our country.

Kathy Ko Chin is president and CEO of the Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum, a national social justice organization that works to improve the health of Asian-Americans, Native Hawaiians, Pacific Islanders and other underserved populations.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
				
Partly sunny with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms. Southeast winds near 10 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms. East winds 5 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼76°	▲88° ▼76°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲88 ▼81
Palau	Showers	▲85 ▼76
Yap	Showers	▲90 ▼77
Chuuk	Showers	▲85 ▼79
Pohnpei	Showers	▲86 ▼76
Kosrae	Showers	▲86 ▼76
Majuro	Mostly Sunny	▲85 ▼79

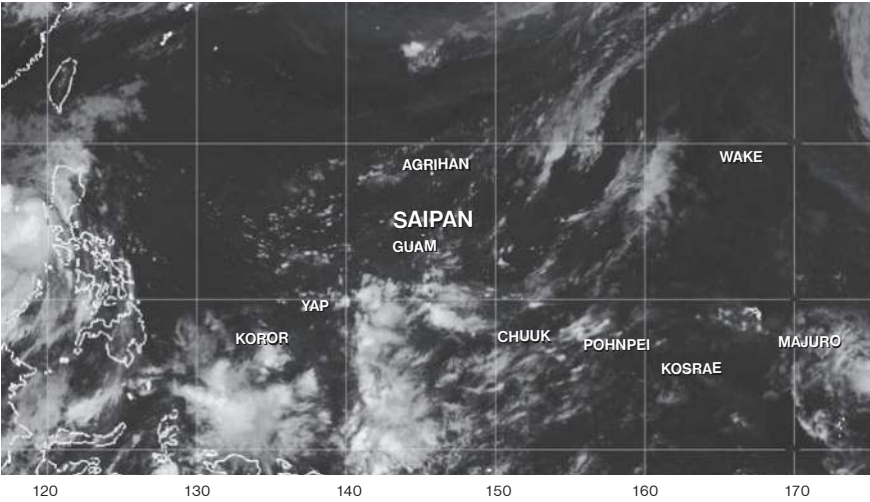
Around The Globe

Auckland	Mostly Sunny	▲60 ▼49
Beijing	Thunderstorms	▲80 ▼72
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲87 ▼81
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲84 ▼72
London	Partly Cloudy	▲68 ▼55
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲91 ▼70
Manila	Thundershowers	▲90 ▼79
Melbourne	Mostly Cloudy	▲63 ▼50
Miami	Thundershowers	▲85 ▼78
New York	Thundershowers	▲79 ▼72
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲83 ▼68
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	▲75 ▼54
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	▲78 ▼73
Rome	Sunny	▲81 ▼64
Salem	Sunny	▲93 ▼64
San Francisco	Sunny	▲77 ▼60
Seoul	Mostly Cloudy	▲88 ▼74
Tokyo	Thundershowers	▲76 ▼67
Washington, DC	Thundershowers	▲85 ▼74

Tides

Saipan Harbor			
2:43 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet
9:51 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.4 Feet
3:57 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.4 Feet
9:11 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.8 Feet

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SUNDAY, JUNE 30, 2013

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A monsoon trough extends southeastward from the Philippines through 9N130E and a weak circulation centered south of Yap at 3N140E to end at EQ142E. Converging west winds south of the trough are causing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms over the Republic of Palau between 8N and the equator from 130E to 139E. A surface trough reaches northeastward from the circulation south of Yap to north of Chuuk at 10N147E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are occurring near this system between Yap and Chuuk within 230 miles of a line from EQ144E to 11N143E. An upper-level trough stretches northeastward from southwest of Chuuk at 5N148E through lows centered east of Guam at 12N152E and west of Wake Island at 19N158E to beyond 25N at 161E. These features are triggering scattered showers and a few thunderstorms from southeast of Guam to southwest of Chuuk within 80 miles of a line from 12N147E to 4N151E. Scattered showers are seen south of Minami Tori Shima within 80 miles of a line from 18N153E to 25N159E and also southwest of Wake Island within 90 miles of a line from 12N158E to 19N162E. A near-equatorial trough meanders eastward from southwest of Pohnpei at 3N155E to near Kwajalein at 8N168E to beyond 180 at 5N. Scattered showers are found near Pohnpei between 6N and 8N from 154E to 159E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are present over the Marshall Islands and Butaritari atoll within 120 miles of a line from 10N165E to 6N172E to 4N180.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:50 AM	6:51 PM
Tuesday	5:51 AM	6:51 PM
Wednesday	5:51 AM	6:51 PM
Thursday	5:51 AM	6:51 PM
Friday	5:51 AM	6:52 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	12:19 AM	1:02 PM
Tuesday	1:01 AM	1:52 PM
Wednesday	1:44 AM	2:43 PM
Thursday	2:27 AM	3:33 PM
Friday	3:13 AM	4:22 PM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

- Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

- the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Saturday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of \$160. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 23, 2013

DEPARTURES	ARRIVALS
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM) UA5070 4:35am 5:25am 2, 4, 6, 7 UA5062 4:50am 5:40am 1, 3, 5 UA5068 8:35am 9:25am Daily UA5074 11:20am 12:10pm 1, 4, 5, 7 UA5076 3:10pm 4:00pm Daily UA5078 6:55pm 7:45pm Daily UA5072 9:45pm 10:35pm Daily	GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN UA 5069 2:45am 3:35am 2, 4, 6, 7 UA5071 7:15am 8:05am Daily UA5073 10:00am 10:50am 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 UA5075 1:45pm 2:35pm 1, 4, 5, 7 UA5077 5:35pm 6:25pm Daily UA5079 8:20pm 9:10pm Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT) DL287 6:05am 8:45am Daily DL297 4:35pm 7:25pm Daily	ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN UA5062 3:45am 4:20am 1, 3, 5 UA5038 11:15am 11:50am 6
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS) OZ608 3:10am 6:20am 1, 4, 5, 7	NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN DL298 10:25am 3:05pm Daily DL288 8:15pm 12:50am+1 Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN) OZ606 2:20am 6:00am 1 OZ606 2:50am 6:30am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 OZ604 3:30pm 6:55pm Daily	BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN OZ607 9:05pm 1:55am+1 3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG) 3U8648 6:10am 8:40am 1, 4, 5, 7	SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN OZ603 8:50am 2:20pm Daily OZ605 7:40pm 1:10am+1 7 OZ605 8:15pm 1:45am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK) MU764 4:10am 8:00am 1, 5	SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN 3U8647 10:40pm 5:00am+1 1, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN) 3U8646 4:20am 7:30am 2, 6	BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN MU763 7:55pm 3:10am+1 4, 7
SAIPAN-KHABAROVSK (KHV) SYL9950 6:40pm 1:30am+1 7	GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN 3U8645 7:40pm 3:00am+1 1, 5
SAIPAN-VLADIVOSTOK (VVO) XF1734 4:15pm 10:30pm 4 Every other week eff May 16	KHABAROVSK (KHV)-SAIPAN SYL9949 12:45pm 5:20pm 7
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL) OZ606/701 2:20am 11:05am 1 via ICN OZ606/701 2:50am 11:05am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN UA5070/191 4:35am 9:55am 6 via GUM UA5062/191 4:50am 9:55am 3 via GUM DL287/173 6:05am 10:05pm Daily via NRT UA5068/PR111 8:35am 4:35pm 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM US5074/PR111 11:20am 4:35pm 1, 5, 7 via GUM UA5076/183 3:10pm 8:45pm 2, 5 via GUM UA5076/183 3:10pm 8:50pm 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM OZ604/703 3:30pm 10:45pm Daily via ICN	VLADIVOSTOK (VVO)-SAIPAN XF1733 11:20am 3:25pm 4 Every other week eff May 16
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG) OZ606/721 2:20am 11:50am 1 via ICN OZ606/721 2:50am 11:50am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN UA5076/147 3:10pm 9:50pm 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM OZ604/745 3:30pm 10:40pm Daily via ICN	MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN PR110/UA5072 7:55am 6:25pm 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM DL172/288 8:00am 12:50am+1 Daily via NRT UA190/5077 10:55am 6:25pm 3, 6 via GUM UA190/5079 10:55am 9:10pm 3, 6 via GUM OZ702/605 12:15pm 1:10am+1 7 via ICN OZ702/605 12:15pm 1:45am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN UA184/5071 10:55pm 8:05am+1 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM OZ704/603 11:45pm 2:20pm Daily via ICN UA184/5071 11:35pm 8:05am+1 2, 5 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG) OZ746/603 12:30am 2:20pm Daily via ICN OZ722/605 1:10pm 1:10am+1 7 via ICN OZ722/605 1:10pm 1:45am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN UA180/5071 10:45pm 8:05am+1 1, 5 via GUM UA180/5071 10:50pm 8:05am+1 3, 6 GUM	HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air.

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota				FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
Guam-Rota				FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan							
FRE 1750	17:50	18:20	Daily	Tinian-Saipan			
Saipan-Rota				FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily	FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Bennett makes the most of opportunities

Eights hours before pageant time, island-born Yvette Bennett said she's proud to be from the islands even as she competed yesterday in the 2013 Miss USA International pageant as a candidate of Idaho.

"Being a titleholder in the U.S. and also being from a small island means a whole lot to me. ...It shows that you can make your dream a reality if you put everything you got into it. You can always make the most of every situation that comes your way, and that's exactly what I did," she told *Saipan Tribune* in an email Saturday night hours away from pageant night.

Aside from the financial gains she received from winning the Miss Idaho U.S. International pageant late last year, Bennett also said there were also more non-tangible benefits from being a titleholder.

"Attending college fulltime is not cheap and ever since I started participating in pageants I knew it could help with some of my college tuition. However after my first pageant in Idaho I gained so much more than college money. I also gained more opportunities to further my career, working on your interpersonal skills and just being comfortable in your own skin."

Woman allegedly hits her husband with car

A woman was arrested for allegedly using her car to hit her husband while he was riding a motorcycle in Dandan Saturday night.

Denise D. Benavente, 26, was arrested for assault with a dangerous weapon and disturbing the peace, *Saipan Tribune* learned yesterday from sources.

Benavente's bail is currently set at \$5,250 cash. She is expected to be taken to Superior Court this morning, Monday, for her initial court appearance.

Her husband reportedly sustained broken bones on his feet.

Sources disclosed that, according to the police's preliminary investigation, the couple had drinking with other people at their house when Benavente got into an argument with a family friend.

She then allegedly got mad when her husband refused to "back her up" and take her side.

The husband left, riding his motorcycle. She followed on a car and allegedly hit the motorcycle twice.

The husband crashed and sustained injuries. The husband told police that it was only an accident, but bystanders allegedly saw the car hitting the motorcycle twice. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

Bennett said the days leading up to the 2013 Miss USA International pageant are actually more stressful than the actual competition day.

"This is only because you never know if your flight will get delayed or you end up forgetting your evening gown. Other than preparing physically I also prepared myself mentally. Going into a huge competition you never know what the outcome will be. Keeping a positive and confident attitude will just keep you at ease and at the same time ready to compete."

Bennett also took the opportunity to thank the people of the Commonwealth for all

their financial and moral support the past few months leading to the pageant.

"I just want to thank the entire CNMI for their generous support and island love they have shown me. It truly is an honor to not only represent the state of Idaho but the CNMI as well."

One other thing that keeps Bennett going is a favorite quote, the origin of which escapes her: "You got what it takes, but it will take everything you got."

Bennett, the daughter of Ambrose Bennett and Lilian Deleon Guerrero, won the 2013 Miss Idaho U.S. International last year and will represent the state in the Miss International USA Pageant in Florida, which concluded yesterday. *(Saipan Tribune)*



Bennett

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PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

This is to inform the general public that the CNMI Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program 2014 State Plan is now available for review and public comment from July 01, 2013 to July 10, 2013. Interested members of the general public may review the 2014 State Plan at the WIC Program's Administrative Office located in Navy Hill, Saipan, Building No. N-25. Our office hours are from 07:30am to 04:30pm (Monday – Friday). All public comments must be submitted in writing to the WIC Program Administrator at the same office no later than July 12, 2013.

/s/ Esther L. Muna

Chief Executive Officer

/s/ Carmen C. Cabrera

Program Administrator



WATER QUALITY REPORT NOW AVAILABLE

Your 2012 CUC Annual Water Quality Report is now available on-line!

Please go to <http://www.cucgov.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/CCR-2012.pdf> to view what contaminants were detected in your water in 2012 and learn more about your drinking water. This report contains important information about the source and quality of your drinking water.

If you need the report translated, wish to speak with someone about the report, or would like a paper copy delivered or emailed to you, please call CUC at (670) 664-4282.

AYOOR REPOD

Yóómw 2012 CUC Annual Water Quality Report nge a llo on-line!

Uló reel <http://www.cucgov.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/CCR-2012.pdf> bwe ubwe weri meta mil ngaw kka re schungi llól yóómw schaal llól 2012 me ubwe bwal ghi mataf reel úlúmómw schaal. Amataffal kkal nge eghi auscheya reel yááyál me ghatchúl yóómw schaal.

Faingi CUC reel (670) 664-4282 ngare u tipeli rebwe seleti ngalúgh amataff kkal, kkapas ngali eschay, me ngare u mwuschel eew kkopiyal rebwe bwughi lló reemw me ngare afanga ngálugh.

GUMUAHA RIPOT PÁ'GU

I ijom-mu 2012 CUC Annual na Ripot Kuálidât Hânúm esta pá'gu gumuaha gi on-line!

Put fabot hânáo para i <http://www.cucgov.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/CCR-2012.pdf> para u ma'atan hâfa na contaminants manmasodda' gi halum hanom-mu gi 2012 yan para un tungu' mäs put i hanum magimin. Esti na ripot ha saahguan siha manimopttânti na imfotmation put i source yan kuálidât i hanum magimin.

Yanggin un nisisita i ripot matransláda, ya malagu' hão kumuentusi hâyí put i ripot pat malagu' hão kopian páppit u ma'entrega pat mana'hânáo guatu para hãgu, put fabot ágang i CUC gi (670) 664-4282.

'Dig into Reading' visits KSPN 2

News director Bob Coldeen and news anchor Tina Sablan got a lot of company when participants of the "Dig Into Reading" visited the KSPN 2 studio last Friday at the Marianas Business Plaza.

Two batches of children aging 5 to 11 years old, accompanied by Children's Library associate Erlinda Naputi and several volunteers, made the short trek from the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library to the former Nauru Building and climbed up three storeys to the KSPN studio.

"We visited KSPN 2 studio, the children learned how news are broadcast, met reporters, and made it to the weekend edition of the news. The reason we chose to visit the news station was to also promote our program and the library," Naputi told the *Saipan Tribune*.

Coldeen said they were very happy to accommodate the library's request and had a great

time giving the children a tour of the KSPN office and having them read the news channel's future station ID via a teleprompter.

Maxine Rabago, a 9-year-old fourth grader from San Vicente Elementary School, said the tour of the KSPN 2 studio was educational and a lot of fun.

Oleai Elementary School's Jzl Santonnah, 9, said she very much enjoyed "Dig Into Reading's" first excursion.

For 8-year-old Keebara Balloza of Mt. Carmel School, the field trip was a treat since they were able to make the news and read a short message. Grace Christian Academy's Elijah Mizutani, 6, said she also had fun.

The field trip capped the first four days of JKPL's "Dig Into Reading" summer program, which Naputi said have signed up some 150 participants.

It started Tuesday with par-

ticipants taking part in activities like read aloud and crafts. They read *Jack and the Beanstalk* and *Diary of a Worm*, used root crop such carrots and potatoes and water color in their artwork, and planted mongo beans.

Wednesday, meanwhile, was movie day featuring the animated film *Gnome & Juliet*.

Staff from the Motherhead Fatherhead Program was JKPL's special guests Thursday and they talked about their program to parents while they also read a story to the children and gave giveaways to everyone.

One of the program's top activities during the week was the "Reading Challenge."

"When a child reads at least 10 books and writes a short paragraph on each book, they will qualify to spin the wheel of fortune, with prizes from our sponsors. With the assistance of our Americorp volunteers, they help our participants choose



Participants of Joeten-Kiyu Public Library's "Dig Into Reading" program read the teleprompter during a field trip to the KSPN 2 studio last Friday.

books of their level, assists them in reading and writing about the story they read," Naputi said.

JKPL's "Dig Into Reading" summer program has been ongoing since 2006.

The program's sponsors are Joeten Ace Hardware; Aqua Resort Club, Chong's Corp., Coca-Cola of Saipan, D&Q, Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, Hyatt Regency Saipan, Horizons, JET Holdings Co., McDonald's Saipan, Megabyte, National Office Supply, Pacific Islands Club, Subway, World Resort Saipan, IP&E, Taco Bell, Bridge Capital, JCT Enterprises, and Sandcastle.

The 2013 Summer Reading Program is open to young people, preschool through young adults, with programs, prize drawings, story hours, cultural activities, a reading club, and more.

For more information, visit JKPL during its regular hours, Tuesday to Friday, from 10am to 6pm, and Saturday from 9am to 4 pm. The library is closed on Sunday, Monday and holidays. Call the library at 235-7316 or 7322 or visit its website, www.cnmilibrary.com. (*Saipan Tribune*)



"Dig Into Reading" program participants, volunteers, and Children's Library associate Erlinda Naputi pose with KSPN 2 news director Bob Coldeen and news anchor Tina Palacios, center back.



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY INSURANCE BROKERAGE SERVICES PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-008-13 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority invites interested insurance brokers, licensed to conduct business on Saipan, to submit proposals for providing Insurance Brokerage Services singularly or in partnership with others. The Broker selected will be appointed as CPA's exclusive Broker of Record for a one-year period with the option to extend the contract annually, up to a maximum of three years at CPA's sole discretion.

The location and Scope of Work package is available beginning June 17, 2013 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd Floor, Arrival Building, at the Saipan International Airport.

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package: "Proposal for CPA Insurance Brokerage Services (CPA-RFP-008-13)." One original and two (2) copies of the proposal must be submitted before 4:30 p.m. LOCAL TIME, July 19, 2013, at the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building, at the Saipan International Airport.

There will be no pre-proposal meeting.

Proposals submitted after the aforementioned deadline will not be accepted under any circumstances. CPA reserves the right to reject any and all proposals if in its opinion to do so is in CPA's best interest.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ JOSE R. LIFOIFOI
Chairman/Contracting Officer

Date: 06/11/2013



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

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REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION STATEMENTS FOR CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES for the Saipan International Airport Runway 25 PAPI/REIL Installation Project No. CPA-SA-001-11

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting statements of professional qualifications from interested firms to perform construction management services for the Saipan International Airport Runway 25 PAPI/REIL Installation, Project No. CPA-SA-001-11, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

At a minimum, the statements of professional qualification from firms should address the areas generally described below:

- Overall construction management experience in the Pacific area and especially in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands;
- Specialized experience and technical competence in the type of work required and previous experience with projects similar in scope;
- Key personnel's professional qualifications, experience and availability for the proposed services; their reputation and professional integrity and competence; and their knowledge of FAA regulations, policies and procedures;
- Quality of projects previously undertaken and capability to complete projects without having major cost escalations or overruns;
- Past performance on contracts including cost control, quality of work and current workload and demonstrated ability to meet schedules and deadlines;
- Firms must have a valid CNMI Business License and the ability to perform the construction management activities in the CNMI.

Interested firms must submit one (1) original and four (4) copies each of their statements of professional qualifications for each service offered no later than 4:30 p.m., Friday, July 5, 2013.

Statements of qualification must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government Standard Form 330. Only firms who have established an office in the Commonwealth and a valid business license will be considered.

The CPA reserves the right to reject any or all statements of professional qualification for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in its best interest.

Send information to : Ms. MaryAnn Q. Lizama
Acting Executive Director
Commonwealth Ports Authority
P.O. Box 501055
Saipan, MP 96950-1055

/s/ BENIGNO M. SABLON
Acting Board Chairman/Contracting Officer
Date: June 18, 2013



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

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REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION STATEMENTS FOR ARCHITECTURAL/ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES ROTA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ROOF LEAK REPAIRS PROJECT NO. CPA-RA-003-13

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting statements of professional qualifications from interested firms for Architectural/Engineering (A/E) Design Services.

The general scope of work is for A/E design services for repairs of the leaks on the roof of the Rota International Airport, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. These services will include an assessment of the roof to determine the cause of the leaking problem and provide plans, specifications and estimates for the anticipated repair work and improvements.

At a minimum, the statements of professional qualification from firms should address the areas generally described below:

- Overall A/E design experience in the Pacific area and especially in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands;
- A/E Design experience related to CPA projects funded in whole or in part by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and/or CPA;
- Level of proficiency in performing A/E services promptly; and level of experience with the FAA and airport projects;
- The general reputation of the firm in terms of quality of A/E work experience and services performed for airport projects, and the firm's professional integrity and competence; and
- Resumes of key personnel including current licenses and registrations of principal, if applicable.

Interested firms must submit one (1) original and four (4) copies each of their statements of professional qualifications no later than 4:30 p.m., Friday, July 5, 2013.

Statements of qualification must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government Standard Form 330. Only firms who have established an office in the Commonwealth and a valid business license will be considered.

The CPA reserves the right to reject any or all statements of professional qualification for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in its best interest.

Send information to : Ms. MaryAnn Q. Lizama
Acting Executive Director
Commonwealth Ports Authority
P.O. Box 501055
Saipan, MP 96950-1055

/s/ BENIGNO M. SABLON
Acting Board Chairman/Contracting Officer
Date: June 18, 2013

Business

Obama says climate change is make-or-break issue

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama is trying to frame climate change as a make-or-break political issue, urging Americans to vote only for those who will protect the country from environmental harm.

He says people in the United States already are paying a price

for climate change, including in lost lives and hundreds of billions of dollars.

"If you agree with me, I'll need you to act," Obama said in his weekly radio and Internet address. "Remind everyone who represents you, at every level of government, that there is no contradiction between a

sound environment and a strong economy—and that sheltering future generations against the ravages of climate change is a

prerequisite for your vote."

In his remarks released Saturday but recorded at the White House before his trip to Africa,

Obama is trying to persuade the public to help sell his climate change plan for him.

That plan, released last week, is bypassing Congress after years of efforts to get lawmakers to pass legislation to deal

with the issue.

At the core of Obama's plan are new controls on new and existing power plants that emit carbon dioxide, heat-trapping gases blamed for global warming.

Facebook is pulling ads from racy, violent pages

MENLO PARK, Calif. (AP)—Facebook is pulling ads from pages that contain violence or sexual content.

The social network said that on Monday, it will expand its definition of pages and groups that are too controversial to carry advertisements.

Facebook has sought to strike a balance between giving its 1.1 billion users the freedom to post

what they want and providing advertisers with space to sell their products.

In May, Facebook Inc. lost more than a dozen advertisers, at least temporarily, after the activist group Women, Action and the Media urged an advertising boycott to protest hate speech on the Facebook site. The controversial content included grisly photos and mottos

that encouraged rape, abuse and other violence against women.

The company said then that it would review its guidelines, update training for employees and increase accountability for those who post such matter. It also said it would work more closely with women's groups. Some of the companies that initially pulled their ads—including automaker

Nissan and the car-sharing service Zipcar—said then that they were pleased with Facebook's response.

Facebook had already banned ads on certain pages. The new policy will expand on the categories affected by the ban. In the past, a company selling adult-theme products could have ads running on the right side of the page, for instance. Those pages will be ad-free starting Monday.

HELP WANTED

By **CARRIE MASON-DRAFFEN**
Newsday

Carrie Mason-Draffen is a columnist for Newsday and the author of 151 Quick Ideas to Deal With Difficult People. Readers may send her email at carrie.draffen@newsday.com.



Safety of late-night departures

QUESTION: I sometimes have to work alone in the office until 9 or 10 p.m. The security guard leaves at 8 p.m. So not only am I alone, but when I leave I walk out into a poorly lit parking lot. Can companies legally require employees to work alone after hours?

ANSWER: Regarding the parking lot, you address two issues really: the poor lighting and the potential for crime. You may be able to get some help regarding the latter.

The lighting issue falls under the category of "there ought to be a law." The U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration, which enforces workplace safety, has standards for illumination, but they apply to construction projects or to general industry things such as lighting for emergency exit routes, said Tony Ciuffo, who heads OSHA's Long Island, N.Y., office.

"Unfortunately they don't fit the scenario you described regarding illumination in a parking lot/garage," Ciuffo said.

Your concern ultimately deals with a potential for a random act of criminal behavior, such as robbery, something OSHA would not typically regulate, Ciuffo said. But that potential could push the issue into the category of workplace violence, for which OSHA has rules. "OSHA does ... address workplace violence and may pursue a general-duty clause citation," he said.

Under that general duty clause, the agency's website says, employers are required to provide a workplace that is "free from recognizable hazards that are causing or likely to cause death or serious harm." So you should contact OSHA with your concerns.

Q: I will reach my full retirement age of 66 on Aug. 15. When would I become eligible to receive Social Security benefits, from Aug. 1 or Sept. 1?

A: I got an answer straight from the Social Security Administration's New York regional office. Since you will reach your full retirement age on your birthday, if you filed for benefits then, Social Security will consider you retired for the full month. So the beginning of your benefits period will stretch back to Aug. 1, even though your birthday falls mid-month. Even if your birthday were on Aug. 31, you would be considered eligible for benefits for the entire month, again because you would reach your full retirement age.

Had you applied for benefits early, say at age 62, you wouldn't have been eligible to begin collecting until the following month—September.

Q: I started working at my current employer in August and am wondering what labor laws say about giving employees holidays off or at least holiday pay when they have to work those days. I had to work on Martin Luther King's birthday, President's Day and Columbus Day. Doesn't my employer have to give me the day off or give me premium pay if I have to work? My previous employer would either give us the day off or holiday pay if we worked.

A: I hope you thanked your former employer for its generosity. That company gave you more than labor law requires. Companies aren't required to give paid time off, unless they promise to. And they don't have to pay premium pay, or overtime, until hourly employees work more than 40 hours a week. Both your employers acted legally. One gave you more than the labor law requires. The other gave you no more than the law mandates.

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Nation

Southwest bakes in 115 to 120-degree heat

LAS VEGAS (AP)—A man died and another was hospitalized in serious condition Saturday afternoon in heat-aggravated incidents as a heat wave blistered this sunbaked city and elsewhere in the Southwest.

Forecasters said temperatures in Las Vegas shot up to 115 degrees on Saturday afternoon, two degrees short of the city's all-time record.

Phoenix hit 119 degrees by mid-afternoon, breaking the record for June 29 that was set in 1994. And large swaths of California sweltered under extreme heat warnings, which are expected to last into Tuesday night—and maybe even longer.

The forecast for Death Valley in California called for 128 degrees Saturday, but it was 3 degrees shy of that, according to unofficial reports from the National Weather Service. Death Valley's record high of 134 degrees, set a century ago, stands as the highest temperature ever recorded on Earth.

Las Vegas fire and rescue spokesman Tim Szymanski said paramedics responded to a home without air conditioning and found an elderly man dead. He said while the man had medical issues, paramedics thought the heat worsened his condition.

Paramedics said another elderly man suffered a heat stroke

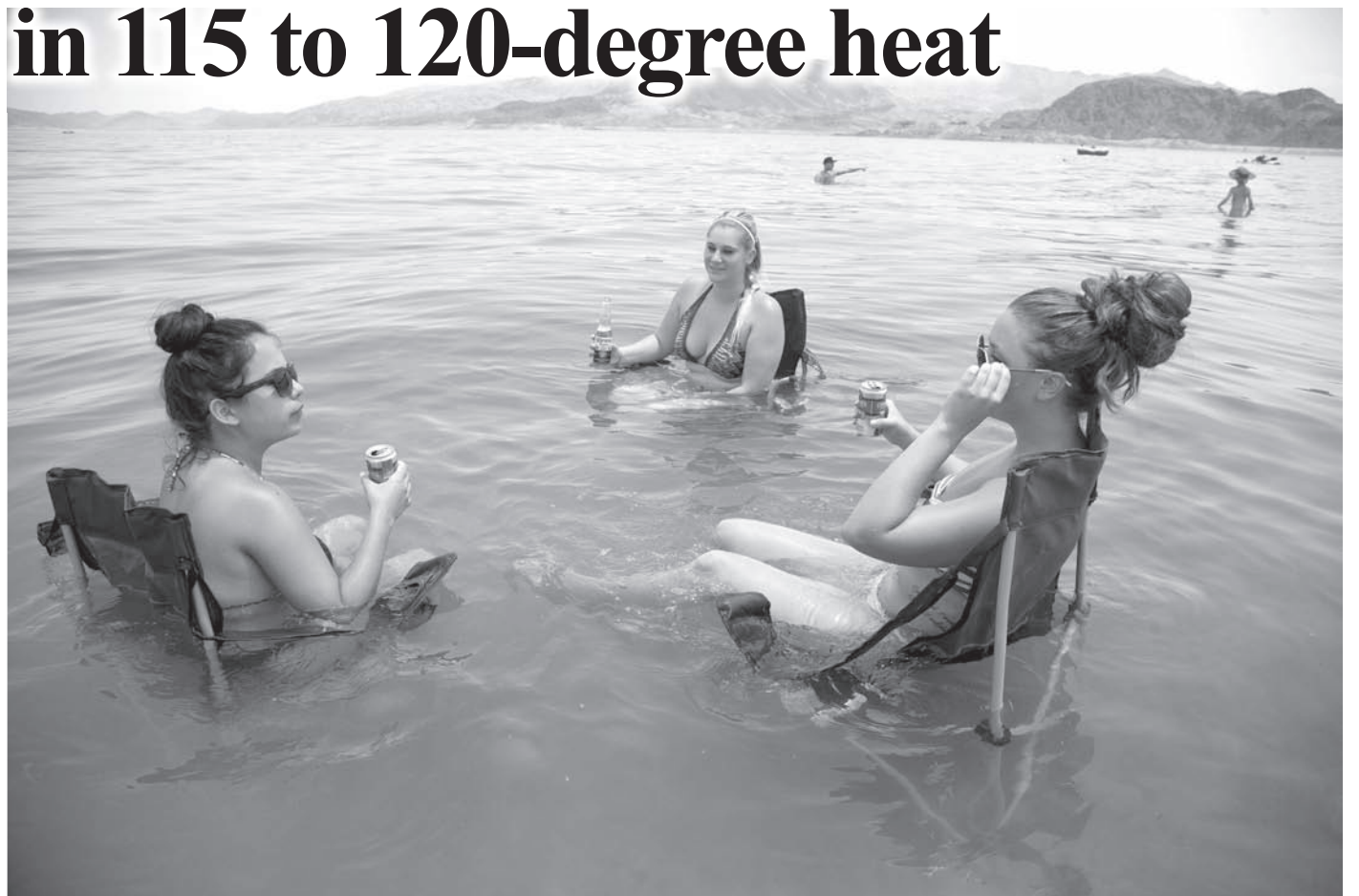
when the air conditioner in his car went out for several hours while he was on a long road trip. He stopped in Las Vegas, called 911 and was taken to the hospital in serious condition.

The heat wave has sent more than 40 other people to hospitals in Las Vegas since it arrived Friday, but no life-threatening injuries were reported.

"We will probably start to see a rise in calls Sunday and Monday as the event prolongs," Szymanski said in a statement. "People's bodies will be more agitated the longer the event lasts and people may require medical assistance."

The forecast for Death Valley called for 128 degrees, but temperatures topped at 125, according to unofficial reports from the National Weather Service. Death Valley's record high of 134 degrees, set a century ago, stands as the highest temperature ever recorded on Earth.

About 100 miles south in Baker, the temperature peaked at an unofficial 117 degrees in the road tripper's oasis in the Mojave Desert on Interstate 15. The strip of gas stations and restaurants between Los Angeles and Las Vegas is known by travelers for the giant thermometer that often notes temperatures in the triple digits.



From left, Subrina Madrid, Sarah Hudak, Jennifer, Shackelford, all of North Las Vegas, Nev., sit in the shallow waters along Boulder Beach at Lake Mead, Saturday, June 29, 2013 near Boulder City, Nev. The three planned to spend the day at the lake to escape the heat in Las Vegas where Saturday's daytime high was expected to reach 117 degrees, which is the city's all-time high. It was 108 at noon Saturday in Sin City.

Elsewhere in Southern California, Palm Springs peaked at 122 degrees while the mercury in Lancaster hit 111—a record.

To make matters worse, National Weather Service meteorologists John Dumas said cooling ocean breezes haven't

been traveling far enough inland overnight to fan the region's overheated valleys and deserts.

In Northern California, record-breaking temperatures were recorded in Sacramento, where the high was 107 degrees; Marysville, which swel-

tered in 109 degrees; and Stockton, which saw 106.

Cooling stations were set up to shelter the homeless and elderly people who can't afford to run their air conditioners. In Phoenix, Joe Arpaio, the famously hard-nosed sheriff who runs a tent jail, planned to distribute ice cream and cold towels to inmates this weekend.

Officials said personnel were added to the Border Patrol's search-and-rescue unit because

of the danger to people trying to slip across the Mexican border. At least seven people have been found dead in the last week in Arizona after falling victim to the brutal desert heat.

Temperatures are also expected to soar across Utah and into Wyoming and Idaho, with triple-digit heat forecast for the Boise area. Cities in Washington state that are better known for cool, rainy weather should break the 90s next week.

Gay marriage opponents ask court to intervene

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Less than 24 hours after California started issuing marriage licenses to same sex couples, lawyers for the sponsors of the state's gay marriage ban filed an emergency motion Saturday asking the U.S. Supreme Court to stop the weddings being performed in San Francisco.

Attorneys with the Arizona-based Alliance Defending Freedom claim in the petition that the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals acted prematurely and unfairly on Friday when it allowed gay marriage to resume by lifting a hold that had been placed on same sex unions.

"The Ninth Circuit's June 28, 2013 Order purporting to dissolve the stay...is the latest in a long line of judicial irregularities that have unfairly thwarted Petitioners' defense of California's marriage amendment," the paperwork states. "Failing to correct the appellate court's actions threatens to undermine the public's confidence in its legal system."

The motion was filed as dozens of couples in jeans, shorts, white dresses and the occasional military uniform filled San Francisco City Hall on Saturday to obtain marriage licenses. On Friday, 81 same sex couples received marriage licenses.

Although a few clerk's offic-



Cynthia Wides, right, and Elizabeth Carey file for a marriage certificate at City Hall in San Francisco, Saturday, June 29, 2013.

es around the state stayed open late on Friday, San Francisco, which is holding its annual gay pride celebration this weekend, was the only jurisdiction to hold weekend hours so that same sex couples could take advantage of their newly restored right, Clerk Karen Hong said.

A sign posted on the door of the office where a long line of couples waited to fill out applications listed the price for a license, a ceremony or both above the words "Equality(equals)Priceless."

"We really wanted to make this happen," Hong said, adding that her whole staff and a group of volunteers came into work without having to be asked. "It's

spontaneous, which is great in its own way."

The timing couldn't have been better for California National Guard Capt. Michael Potoczniak, 38, and his partner of 10 years, Todd Saunders, 47, of El Cerrito.

Potoczniak, who joined the Guard after the military's ban on openly gay service was repealed almost two years ago, was scheduled to fly out Sunday night for a month of basic training in Texas.

"I woke up this morning, shook him awake and said, 'Let's go,'" said Potoczniak, who chose to get married in his Army uniform. "It's something that people need to see because

everyone is so used to uniforms at military weddings."

The U.S. Supreme Court ruled on Wednesday that Proposition 8's backers lacked standing to defend the 2008 law because California's governor and attorney general have declined to defend the ban.

Then on Friday, the 9th Circuit appeared to have removed the last obstacle to making same sex matrimony legal again in California when it removed its hold on a lower court's 2010 order directing state officials to stop enforcing the ban.

Within hours, same sex couples were seeking marriage licenses. The two couples who sued to overturn Proposition 8 were wed in San Francisco and Los Angeles Friday.

Alliance Defending Freedom Senior Counsel Austin Nimocks said on Saturday that the Supreme Court's consideration of the case isn't done because his clients still have 22 days to ask the justices to reconsider the 5-4 decision announced Wednesday.

Under Supreme Court rules, the losing side in a legal dispute has 25 days to request a rehearing. While such requests are almost never granted, the high court said that it wouldn't finalize its judgment in the case at least until after that waiting period elapsed.

ACROSS THE NATION

7 shot at Brooklyn party; 1 in critical condition

NEW YORK (AP)—Police say seven people have been shot at a party in Brooklyn, including a woman taken to a hospital in critical condition. Authorities say shots rang out at a party at a residence at approximately 1 a.m. Sunday. They say the woman and six other people who sustained non-life-threatening injuries have been transported to Kings County Hospital. Police say there is no immediate word on the extent of the injuries or the identities of those who were hurt. Police say no arrests have been made.

Funeral held for man in ex-Patriot's murder case

BOSTON (AP)—Hundreds of relatives, friends and teammates wept together and hugged Saturday at the funeral of a semi-pro football player whose killing led to murder and weapons charges against former New England Patriots player Aaron Hernandez. The body of Odin Lloyd was found June 17 near Hernandez's home. Police arrested Hernandez on Wednesday and charged him with orchestrating the execution-style shooting. Lloyd played for the Boston Bandits and was dating the sister of Hernandez's fiancée. Members of Lloyd's team showed up for the funeral in their uniforms and chanted his name as pallbearers placed his casket in a hearse outside Church of the Holy Spirit in Boston's Matapan neighborhood. The crowd of mourners was so large that some could not find room inside the church for the two-hour service.

SF rapid transit talks break down; strike possible

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—A chief negotiator said that two of San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit's largest unions will "likely" go on strike after contract talks stalled on Saturday. Josie Mooney, a negotiator for the Service Employees International Union Local 1021, said there's "a 95 percent chance" that her union and members of the Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1555, will begin striking Monday after their contracts expire at midnight Sunday. The two unions represent nearly 2400 train operators, station agents, mechanics, maintenance workers and professional staff.

Asia

Abe chided for querying war apology

TOKYO (AP)—A retired Japanese politician whose name is on a landmark 1993 apology over Japan's use of wartime sex slaves says Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's attempts to downplay Japan's actions before and during World War II have hurt the country's global image and could undermine its pacifist pledge.

Yohei Kono played a major role in the early 1990s helping Japan confront its wartime past and establish warmer ties with its Asian neighbors during years leading up to the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II.

He said in a rare interview with The Associated Press this week that Abe's suggestion that he wanted to revise two apologies—including a 1995 statement expressing regret for Japan's wartime aggression and commitment to peace—risks setting back by decades relations



Kono

with China and South Korea.

If the apologies are changed, "Japan will be isolated from the international community. That much is clear," the 76-year-old Kono said. "I'm afraid he (Abe) is underestimating a possible impact of his comments" on Japan's diplomacy.

Abe has alarmed China and South Korea by suggesting that he would like to revise Japan's pacifist constitution so that Japan's military can operate with more freedom. Kono, too, is concerned about this push and says Abe's government needs to fully accept that Japan is geopolitically part of Asia, and has no choice but to deepen ties with China and South Korea.

"You say it's hard to get along with them, or there is complicated history. Even so, we must overcome the difficulty and be friends. It's crucial to keep that

in mind and make efforts, and prioritize that before anything," said Kono, who retired four years ago after 42 years at the top of Japan's political world.

As Chief Cabinet Secretary in the early 1990s, Kono was a relatively liberal-leaning politician within the generally conservative Liberal Democratic Party. He helped craft—and read to the public on Aug. 4, 1993—what has come to be called the "Kono Statement" apologizing for "immeasurable pain and incurable physical and psychological wounds" inflicted on thousands of "comfort women," mostly Korean but also from China, the Philippines, Indonesia and the Netherlands.

The statement—the government's most thorough apology on the matter—won praise in Asia and elsewhere outside Japan, but faced some criticism at home from conservatives, including members of Kono's former party, which has become increasingly right-wing.

Philippines busts Korean mail-order-bride gang

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Philippine authorities have rescued 29 women after busting a mail-order bride business and arresting two South Koreans and their four local partners, a police official said Thursday.

Police raided a house Wednesday in Bacoor city near Manila used by the syndicate and found the women, including a 16-year-old girl, said Chief Superintendent Reginald Villasanta, executive director of the Presidential Anti-Organized Crime Commission.

The syndicate collects thousands of dollars in fees from Korean men seeking Filipino wives, telling them falsely that the money will go to the women's families, Villasanta said.

Villasanta says the women

are promised a prosperous life in South Korea but often end up abused or in unhappy marriages.

"We have rescued 29 (Filipino women) who were duped into promises of an instant wealthy life thru marriage with Korean gentlemen although in most cases, they ended up in the losing end after becoming victims of grave abuses," Villasanta said.

He said there are an estimated 10,000 Filipino women married to South Koreans.

Poverty and the lack of employment have forced millions of Filipinos to find work abroad and some to seek marriage with foreigners, most with hopes of a better life and being able to support their families back home.

The Philippine embassy in Seoul has reported receiving

many complaints from Filipino women abused by their Korean husbands and whose marriages have ended in abandonment or divorce.

It said that the women, who were given false information about their husbands' family backgrounds, were wed through illegal "marriage brokers" in the Philippines, the embassy said in a statement.

Villasanta said the police were tipped off by victims. He did not give details of the police operation.

He said the suspects will be charged with violating the human trafficking law, which carries a 20-year prison term, and another law that prohibits mail-order brides, punishable by six years in prison.

multi-purpose truck and an armored personnel vehicle after finishing a patrol early Saturday. Metha said the improvised bomb hidden under the road surface destroyed the truck and killed seven soldiers. Two officers were wounded and one was missing, while a villager was injured in the attack.

UN says 2 killed in Myanmar refugee camp dispute

YANGON, Myanmar (AP)—Two people were killed and six wounded when security forces tried to quell a dispute at a refugee camp housing Muslims in western Myanmar, the U.N. refugee agency said Friday. Thursday morning's dispute was apparently triggered by disagreements over how some 4,400 ethnic Rohingya at the camp in Pauktaw township should be resettled, the office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees said in a statement. The camp houses Muslims displaced by deadly sectarian fighting in Rakhine state last year that pitted Buddhists against Muslims. Last year's fighting saw several hundred people killed and drove as many as 140,000 others from their homes, either fleeing for safety or because they were burned down.

World

Tension rises ahead of Egypt protest

CAIRO (AP)—Organizers of a mass protest against Egyptian President Mohammed Morsi claimed Saturday that more than 22 million people have signed their petition demanding the Islamist leader step down, asserting that the tally was a reflection of how much the public has turned against his rule.

The announcement adds to a sense of foreboding on the eve of opposition-led mass demonstrations that many fear could turn deadly and quickly spin out of control, dragging the country into a dangerous round of political violence.

The demonstrations planned for Sunday reflect the growing polarization of the nation since Morsi took power, with the president and his Islamist allies in one camp and seculars, liberals, moderate Muslims and Christians on the other.

There is a sense among opponents and supporters of Morsi that Sunday's rally is a make or break day. The opposition feels empowered by the petition, known as Tamarod, or Rebel, but it offered no proof regarding the figures. If verified, it would mean that nearly double the number of people who voted for Morsi a year ago are now calling for



AP

Supporters of Egypt's Islamist President Mohammed Morsi wave his posters and national flags as they fill a public square outside of the Rabia el-Adawiya Mosque in Cairo, not far from the presidential palace, during a rally in Cairo, Saturday, June 29, 2013.

him to step down.

"Honestly, if (Sunday) is not a game changer, we might all just pack up our bags and leave," said Mahmoud Salem, a prominent blogger known by his blog's name Sandmonkey and a vocal critic of the Muslim Brotherhood, from which Morsi hails.

While violence is likely in such a tense atmosphere, Salem said it would not play out in favor of Morsi supporters because they will be outnumbered.

"They have alienated everybody," he said. Even if no violence breaks out, Salem said

civil disobedience is expected in a movement designed now to "save the country."

Morsi's supporters, on the other hand, question the petitions, saying his opponents are led by members of the ousted regime of Hosni Mubarak who are trying to orchestrate a comeback and are instigating violence.

"Today and tomorrow will be the real birth of this nation," said Hani Salaheddin, a presenter on the Muslim Brotherhood-affiliated TV station Misr 25, predicting that Sunday will bring an end to the questioning of Morsi's mandate.

Thousands in Istanbul protest demonstrator's death

ISTANBUL (AP)—Thousands of protesters returned to Istanbul's Taksim Square on Saturday, demanding justice for a demonstrator slain by police fire during demonstrations that have swept Turkey this month. Police later forced the protesters out of the square, pushing them back using their shields.

In the capital, Ankara, police fired tear gas and pressurized water to break up a similar protest by a group of about 200 people, the Dogan news agency reported.

Turkey has been hit by a wave of protests this month

that were ignited by a brutal police crackdown on a peaceful environmental sit-in at a park near Taksim. The demonstrations soon turned into a wide outpouring of discontent with Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan's government. Four people—three demonstrators and one police officer—have been killed and thousands injured.

The demonstrations have largely subsided in recent days, but thousands converged back on the square on Saturday, angry over a court decision this week that released

a police officer from custody pending his trial for the killing of a protester in Ankara.

The protesters also denounced the killing of a Kurdish demonstrator by paramilitary police in a mainly Kurdish town on Friday.

Police allowed protesters to chant slogans for some two hours before issuing a warning for them to disperse. They then moved in, pushing the crowd away from the square. They arrested several people in the process, including some foreign nationals, the state-run Anadolu Agency reported.

In South Africa, Obama pays tribute to ill Mandela

JOHANNESBURG (AP)—Paying tribute to his personal hero, President Barack Obama met privately Saturday with Nelson Mandela's family as the world anxiously awaited news on the condition of the ailing 94-year-old anti-apartheid leader.

Obama, who has spoken movingly about Mandela throughout his trip to Africa, praised the former South African president's "moral courage" during remarks from the grand Union Buildings where Mandela was inaugurated as his nation's first black president.

The U.S. president also

called on the continent's leaders, including in neighboring Zimbabwe, to take stock of Mandela's willingness to put country before self and step down after one term despite his immense popularity.

"We as leaders occupy these spaces temporarily and we don't get so deluded that we think the fate of our country doesn't depend on how long we stay in office," Obama said during a news conference with South African President Jacob Zuma.

Obama's stop in South Africa marked the midway point of a weeklong trip to Africa, his most significant engagement

with the continent since taking office in 2009.

His lack of personal attention on the region has frustrated some Africans who had high expectations for the first black American president and son of a Kenyan man.

Even with Mandela's health casting a shadow over his visit, Obama tried to keep focus on an agenda that includes deeper U.S. economic ties with Africa. The president dismissed suggestions that he was only investing personal capital on Africa's economy now as a response to the increased focus on the continent by China, India, Brazil and others.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Violence hits west China ahead of key anniversary

BEIJING (AP)—Violent incidents have spread over the past week in a tense minority region of western China, just days before the fourth anniversary of a bloody clash between minority Uighurs and the ethnic Han majority that left almost 200 people dead and resulted in a major security clampdown. China's communist authorities have labeled some of the incidents—including one that left 35 people dead—as terrorist attacks, and President Xi Jinping has ordered that the situation be promptly dealt with to safeguard overall social stability, state media has reported. A state-run newspaper said Saturday that authorities had beefed up security in the region.

7 soldiers killed in attack in Thailand's south

HAT YAI, Thailand (AP)—Seven soldiers were killed Saturday in a roadside bomb attack in Thailand's insurgency-plagued south, police said. Police Col. Metha Singhasena said a group of suspected insurgents detonated the bomb on a rural road in Krong Pinang district in Yala province as military vehicles passed by. He said 10 soldiers were traveling on a

Focus

WASHINGTON (AP)—It took 50 years for American attitudes about marijuana to zigzag from the paranoia of “Reefer Madness” to the excesses of Woodstock back to the hard line of “Just Say No.”

The next 25 years took the nation from Bill Clinton, who famously “didn’t inhale,” to Barack Obama, who most emphatically did.

Now, in just a few short years, public opinion has moved so dramatically toward general acceptance that even those who champion legalization are surprised at how quickly attitudes are changing and states are moving to approve the drug—for medical use and just for fun.

It is a moment in America that is rife with contradictions:

¾ People are looking more kindly on marijuana even as science reveals more about the drug’s potential dangers, particularly for young people.

¾ States are giving the green light to the drug in direct defiance of a federal prohibition on its use.

¾ Exploration of the potential medi-



This Oct. 26, 2010 file photo shows a marijuana plant flourishing under grow lights at a warehouse in Denver.

They see racial inequity in the way marijuana laws are enforced. They’re weary of the “war on drugs.”

Opponents counter with a 2012 study finding that regular use of marijuana during teen years can lead to a long-term drop in IQ, and another study indicating marijuana use can induce and exacerbate psychotic illness in susceptible people. They question the notion that regulating pot will bring in big money, saying revenue estimates are grossly exaggerated.

They reject the claim that prisons are bulging with people convicted of simple possession by citing federal statistics showing only a small percentage of federal and state inmates are behind bars for that alone.

They warn that baby boomers who draw on their own innocuous experiences with pot are overlooking the much higher potency of today’s marijuana.

In 2009, concentrations of THC, the psychoactive ingredient in pot, averaged close to 10 percent in marijuana, compared with about 4 percent in the 1980s, according to the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

“If marijuana legalization was about my old buddies at Berkeley smoking in People’s Park once a week I don’t think many of us would care that much,” says Sabet, who helped to found Smart

Marijuana’s march toward mainstream confounds feds

cal benefit is limited by high federal hurdles to research.

Washington policymakers seem reluctant to deal with any of it.

Richard Bonnie, a University of Virginia law professor who worked for a national commission that recommended decriminalizing marijuana in 1972, sees the public taking a big leap from prohibition to a more laissez-faire approach without full deliberation.

“It’s a remarkable story historically,” he says. “But as a matter of public policy, it’s a little worrisome.”

More than a little worrisome to those in the anti-drug movement.

“We’re on this hundred-mile-an-hour freight train to legalizing a third addictive substance,” says Kevin Sabet, a former drug policy adviser in the Obama administration, lumping marijuana with tobacco and alcohol.

Legalization strategist Ethan Nadelmann, executive director of the Drug Policy Alliance, likes the direction the marijuana smoke is wafting. But knows his side has considerable work yet to do.

“I’m constantly reminding my allies that marijuana is not going to legalize itself,” he says.

■■■

By the numbers:

Eighteen states and the District of Columbia have legalized the use of marijuana for medical purposes since California voters made the first move in 1996. Voters in Colorado and Washington state took the next step last year and approved pot for recreational use. Alaska is likely to vote on the same question in 2014, and a few other states are expected to put recreational use on the ballot in 2016.

Nearly half of adults have tried marijuana, 12 percent of them in the past year, according to a survey by the Pew

Research Center.

Fifty-two percent of adults favor legalizing marijuana, up 11 percentage points just since 2010, according to Pew.

Sixty percent think Washington shouldn’t enforce federal laws against marijuana in states that have approved its use.

■■■

Where California led the charge on medical marijuana, the next chapter in this story is being written in Colorado and Washington state.

Policymakers there are grappling with all sorts of sticky issues revolving around one central question: How do you legally regulate the production, distribution, sale and use of marijuana for recreational purposes when federal law bans all of the above?

The Justice Department began reviewing the matter after last November’s election. But seven months later, states still are on their own.

Both sides in the debate paid close attention when Obama said in December that “it does not make sense, from a prioritization point of view, for us to focus on recreational drug users in a state that has already said that under state law that’s legal.”

Rep. Jared Polis, a Colorado Democrat who favors legalization, predicts Washington will take a hands-off approach, based on Obama’s comments. But he’s quick to add: “We would like to see that in writing.”

The federal government already has taken a similar approach toward users in states that have approved marijuana for medical use.

It doesn’t go after pot-smoking cancer patients or grandmas with glaucoma. But it also has made clear that people who are in the business of growing, selling and distributing marijuana on a

large scale are subject to potential prosecution for violations of the Controlled Substances Act—even in states that have legalized medical use.

■■■

There’s a political calculus for the president, or any other politician, in all of this.

Younger people, who tend to vote more Democratic, are more supportive of legalizing marijuana, as are people in the West, where the libertarian streak runs strong.

Despite increasing public acceptance of marijuana overall, politicians know there are complications that could come with commercializing an addictive substance. Opponents of pot are particularly worried that legalization will result in increased use by young people.

Sabet frames the conundrum for Obama: “Do you want to be the president that stops a popular cause, especially a cause that’s popular within your own party? Or do you want to be the president that enables youth drug use that will have ramifications down the road?”

Marijuana legalization advocates offer politicians a rosier scenario, in which legitimate pot businesses eager to keep their operating licenses make sure not to sell to minors.

“Having a regulated system is the only way to ensure that we’re not ceding control of this popular substance to the criminal market and to black marketeers,” says Aaron Smith, executive director of the National Cannabis Industry Association, a trade group for legal pot businesses in the U.S.

■■■

While the federal government hunkers down, Colorado and Washington state are moving forward on their own with regulations covering everything from how plants will be grown to how

many stores will be allowed.

Tim Lynch, director of the libertarian Cato Institute’s Project on Criminal Justice, predicts “the next few years are going to be messy” as states work to bring a black-market industry into the sunshine.

California’s experience with medical marijuana offers a window into potential pitfalls that can come with wider availability of pot.

Dispensaries for medical marijuana have proliferated in the state, and regulation has been lax, prompting a number of cities around the state to ban dispensaries.

In May, the California Supreme Court ruled that cities and counties can ban medical marijuana dispensaries. A few weeks later, Los Angeles voters approved a ballot measure that limits the number of pot shops in the city to 135, down from an estimated high of about 1,000.

This isn’t full-scale buyer’s remorse, but more a course correction before the inevitable next push for full-on legalization in the state.

■■■

Growing support for legalization doesn’t mean everybody wants to light up: Barely one in 10 Americans used pot in the past year.

Those who do want to see marijuana legalized range from libertarians who oppose much government intervention to people who want to see an activist government aggressively regulate marijuana production and sales.

For some, money talks: Why let drug cartels rake in untaxed profits when a cut could go into government coffers?

There are other threads in the growing acceptance of pot.

People think it’s not as dangerous as once believed. They worry about high school kids getting an arrest record.

Approaches to Marijuana, a group that opposes legalization. “It’s really about creating a new industry that’s going to target kids and target minorities and our vulnerable populations just like our legal industries do today.”

■■■

So how bad, or good, is pot?

J. Michael Bostwick, a psychiatrist at the Mayo Clinic, set out to sort through more than 100 sometimes conflicting studies after his teenage son became addicted to pot, and turned his findings into a 22-page article for Mayo Clinic Proceedings in 2012.

For all of the talk that smoking pot is no big deal, Bostwick says he determined that “it was a very big deal. There were addiction issues. There were psychosis issues.

But there was also this very large body of literature suggesting that it could potentially have very valuable pharmaceutical applications but the research was stymied” by federal barriers.

The National Institute on Drug Abuse says research is ongoing.

Dr. Nora Volkow, the institute’s director, worries that legalizing pot will result in increased use of marijuana by young people, and impair their brain development.

“Think about it: Do you want a nation where your young people are stoned?” she asks.

Partisans on both sides think people in other states will keep a close eye on Colorado and Washington as they decide what happens next.

But past predictions on pot have been wildly off-base.

“Reefer Madness,” the 1936 propaganda movie that pot fans turned into a cult classic in the 1970s, spins a tale of dire consequences “ending often in incurable insanity.”

Health & Fitness

Goodbye M&M's, hello granola bars as school snacks

WASHINGTON (AP)—Kids, your days of blowing off those healthier school lunches and filling up on cookies from the vending machine are numbered. The government is onto you.

For the first time, the Agriculture Department is telling schools what sorts of snacks they can sell. The new restrictions announced Thursday fill a gap in nutrition rules that allowed many students to load up on fat, sugar and salt despite the existing guidelines for healthy meals.

"Parents will no longer have to worry that their kids are using their lunch money to buy junk food and junk drinks at school," said Margo Wootan, a nutrition lobbyist for the Center for Science in the Public Interest who pushed for the new rules.

That doesn't mean schools will be limited to doling out broccoli and Brussels sprouts.

Snacks that still make the grade include granola bars, low-fat tortilla chips, fruit cups and 100 percent fruit juice. And high school students can buy diet versions of soda, sports drinks and iced tea.

But say goodbye to some beloved school standbys, such as doughy pretzels, chocolate chip cookies and those little ice cream cups with their own spoons. Some may survive in low-fat or whole wheat versions. The idea is to weed out junk food and replace it with something with nutritional merit.

The bottom line, says Wootan: "There has to be some food in the food."

Still, 17-year-old Vanessa Herrera is partial to the Cheez-It crackers and sugar-laden Vitaminwater in her high school's vending machine. Granola bars and bags of peanuts? Not so much.

"I don't think anyone would eat it," said Herrera of Rockaway, N.J.

There are no vending machines at Lauren Jones' middle school in Hoover, Ala., but she said there's an "a la carte" stand that sells chips, ice cream and other snacks.

"Having something sweet to go with your meal is good sometimes," the 13-year-old said, although she also thinks that encouraging kids to eat healthier is worthwhile.

The federal snack rules don't take effect until the 2014-15 school year, but there's nothing to stop schools from



After school snacks can be fun as well as healthy. Rice cakes with peanut butter, bananas and raisins, celery sticks, juice boxes and flavored apple sauce are all healthy options.

making changes earlier.

Some students won't notice much difference. Many schools already are working to improve their offerings. Thirty-nine states have some sort of snack food policy in place.

Rachel Snyder, 17, said earlier this year her school in Washington, Ill., stripped its vending machines of sweets. She misses the pretzel-filled M&M's.

"If I want a sugary snack every now and then," Snyder said, "I should be able to buy it."

The federal rules put calorie, fat, sugar and sodium limits on almost everything sold during the day at 100,000 schools—expanding on the previous rules for meals. The Agriculture Department sets nutritional standards for schools that receive federal funds to help pay for lunches, and that covers nearly every public school and about half of private ones.

One oasis of sweetness and fat will remain: Anything students bring from home, from bagged lunches to birthday cupcakes, is exempt from the rules.

The Agriculture Department was required to draw up the rules under a law passed by Congress in 2010, championed by first lady Michelle Obama, as part of the government's effort to combat childhood obesity.

Nutritional guidelines for subsidized

lunches were revised last year and put in place last fall.

Last year's rules making main lunch fare more nutritious faced criticism from some conservatives, including some Republicans in Congress, who said the government shouldn't be telling kids what to eat. Mindful of that backlash, the Agriculture Department left one of the more controversial parts of the rule, the regulation of in-school fundraisers like bake sales, up to the states.

The rules have the potential to transform what many children eat at school.

In addition to meals already subject to nutrition standards, most lunchrooms also have "a la carte" lines that sell other foods—often greasy foods like mozzarella sticks and nachos. That gives students a way to circumvent the healthy lunches. Under the rules, those lines could offer healthier pizzas, low-fat hamburgers, fruit cups or yogurt and similar fare.

One of the biggest changes will be a near-ban on high-calorie sports drinks. Many beverage companies added sports drinks to school vending machines after sodas were pulled in response to criticism from the public health community.

The rule would only allow sales in high schools of sodas and sports drinks that contain 60 calories or less in a 12-

ounce serving, banning the highest-calorie versions of those beverages.

Low-calorie sports drinks—Gatorade's G2, for example—and diet drinks will be allowed in high school.

Elementary and middle schools will be allowed to sell only water, carbonated water, 100 percent fruit or vegetable juice, and low fat and fat-free milk, including nonfat flavored milks.

Republicans have continued to scrutinize the efforts to make school foods healthier, and at a House subcommittee hearing Thursday, Rep. Todd Rokita, R-Ind., said the "stringent rules are

creating serious headaches for schools and students."

One school nutritionist testified that her school has had difficulty adjusting to the 2012 changes, and the new "a la carte" standards could also be a hardship.

The healthier foods are expensive, said Sandra Ford, president of the School Nutrition Association and director of food and nutrition services for a school district in Bradenton, Fla. She also predicted that her school district could lose \$975,000 a year under the new "a la carte" guidelines because they would have to eliminate many of the popular foods they sell.

In a report released at the hearing, the Government Accountability Office said that in some districts students were having trouble adjusting to the new foods, leading to increased waste and kids dropping out of the school lunch program.

The food industry has been onboard with many of the changes, and several companies worked with Congress on the child nutrition law three years ago.

Angela Chicco, a mother from Clifton Park, N.Y., sees the guidelines as a good start but says it will take a bigger campaign to wean kids off junk food.

"I try to do less sugar myself," Chicco said. "It's hard to do."

More C-sections are now done closer to due date

ATLANTA (AP)—Not only has the nation's high level of C-sections finally stopped rising, but more of the operations are taking place closer to the mother's due date, a new government report found.

Figures released Thursday show what appears to be a significant shift in when pregnant women have cesarean sections. Experts called the change great news—apparent evidence that doctors and women have absorbed warnings about the risks of C-sections and the importance of waiting to deliver until the baby is full-term.

"People are getting the message," said Dr. Barbara Stoll, an Emory University specialist in the care of newborns.

A C-section is major surgery with risks of infection and, in very rare cases, death. Recovery time is longer than with a vaginal delivery. And the babies can be more likely to have breathing difficulties and other medical problems.

For decades, the operations were done in only a small fraction of births, usually only when a fetus was in danger. In 1970, the U.S. rate was 5 percent of all births.

By 2009, about a third of births were C-sections. Experts say many factors drove the rate up, including the convenience of scheduling deliveries.

But that rate has at least stopped rising for two years. The overall rate was again about 33 percent in 2011, the latest year available from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Thursday's report focused on preliminary data for that year's single-child deliveries, which are about 96 percent of all births. The trend there was similar to the overall numbers: The C-section rate has held steady at 31 percent since 2009, after rising for a dozen straight years.

The report found very little change in C-sections through 37 weeks of gestation between 2009 and 2011. But at 38 weeks there were fewer: the rate fell 5 percent, to 32 percent.

And at 39 weeks, it rose 4 percent, to 34 percent of births. The rate at 40 weeks held steady at 25 percent.

A full-term pregnancy is 39 to 40 weeks. The changes occurred across the board, for all major racial and ethnic groups and for all ages of mothers.

CDC health statistician Michelle Osterman said they had hoped to figure out from the report why the overall rates had leveled off, but it didn't provide any answers. Health officials want to push the rate down to a goal of 15 percent.

Still, the shift to later C-sections is great news, said Dr. George Macones, head of obstetrics and gynecology at Washington University in St. Louis.

"The important thing is babies born before 39 weeks have more complications than babies born at 39 weeks and beyond," Macones said.

NIH to retire most chimps from medical research

WASHINGTON (AP)—It's official: The National Institutes of Health plans to end most use of chimpanzees in government medical research, saying humans' closest relatives "deserve special respect."

The NIH announced Wednesday that it will retire about 310 government-owned chimpanzees from research over the next few years, and keep only 50 others essentially on retainer—available if needed for crucial medical studies that could be performed no other way.

"These amazing animals have taught us a great deal already," said NIH Director Dr. Francis Collins. He said the decision helps usher in "a compassionate era."

The NIH's decision was long expected, after the prestigious Institute of Medicine declared in 2011 that nearly

all use of chimps for invasive medical research no longer can be justified. Much of the rest of the world already had ended such research with this species that is so like us.

Any future biomedical research funded by the NIH with chimps, government-owned or not, would be allowed only under strict conditions after review by a special advisory board. In five years, the NIH will reassess if even that group of 50 government-owned apes still is needed for science.

What's unclear is exactly where the retiring chimps, which have spent their lives in research facilities around the country, now will spend their final years. NIH said they could eventually join more than 150 other chimps already in the national sanctuary system operated by Chimpanzee Haven in Louisiana. In that habitat, the chimps can so-

cialize at will, climb trees and explore different play areas.

But NIH officials said currently there's not enough space to handle all of the 310 destined for retirement. They're exploring additional locations, and noted that some research facilities that currently house government-owned chimps have habitats similar to the sanctuary system.

The other hurdle is money: Congress limited how much the NIH can spend on caring for chimps in the sanctuary system. Negotiations are under way to shift money the agency has spent housing the animals in research facilities toward supporting their retirement.

"Everybody should understand this is not something that is going to happen quickly," Collins cautioned.

The NIH's decision came two weeks after the Fish and Wildlife Service called

for protection of all chimpanzees as endangered. Until now there was a "split listing" that labeled wild chimps as endangered but those in captivity as threatened, a status that offers less protection.

That move also would affect any future use of chimps in medical research, and NIH said it would work with its government counterpart to ensure compliance.

Chimps rarely have been used for drug testing or other invasive research in recent years; studies of chimp behavior or genetics are a bit more common. Of nine biomedical projects under way, the NIH said six would be ended early. Of another 13 behavioral or genetic studies involving chimps, five would be ended early. NIH would not identify the projects, but Collins said potential future need for chimps could be in creating a vaccine against hepatitis C.

Life & Style

Chill out with do-it-yourself summer wine coolers

By MICHELLE LOCKE
ASSOCIATED PRESS

The wine cooler has a bit of an identity problem. Is it a wine spritzer? A wine cocktail? Sangria? And what about that wild child moment in the '80s when it was the hottest thing on the party scene?

Luckily, this cocktail conundrum is easily solved. As Gertrude Stein might put it, wine cooler is wine spritzer is wine cocktail is sangria. And the versions being whipped up today have nothing in common with the cheap, mass-produced products of 30 years ago (which thankfully went the way of shoulder pads).

"Mixology has been raised to this new chef-like heights and wine, in a way, is the bartender's hottest ingredient right now," says Mike Dawson, senior editor at Wine Enthusiast. "Cutting-edge bartenders are taking these wine-based drinks to new heights, and creating these New Age coolers, along with countless variations of the sangria and classic wine cocktails like the New York Sour."

Summer is the perfect time for wine coolers, since it's the one time of year even the most dedicated vinophile toys with dropping a fistful of ice in a glass.

Switching to a cooler makes wine "a little bit easier to drink," says Chad Furuta of Del Frisco's Grille in New York. At



In this image taken on June 3, 2013, watermelon Bellinis, front, and a dark island cooler, rear, are shown in Concord, N.H. AP

the Grille, bartenders are making spritzers with a house white wine, mixed with ginger ale or a lemon-lime soda and served with a lemon twist or wedge. "Whether you want to call it wine cooler or spritzer, it re-

ally is a great summer drink," he says.

What should you use when making your own wine coolers? Well, don't reach for the bottom shelf wine that just doesn't taste good, advises Cappy Sorentino,

bar director of Spoonbar restaurant at the h2hotel in the wine country town of Healdsburg, California. On the other hand, don't go crazy and uncork an expensive bottle of wine, either.

"It doesn't have to be the best stuff because you're basically using it as a base," he says.

Look for a wine that has a fair amount of acidity to it, i.e. "yes" to sauvignon blanc or pinot grigio, "no" to chardonnay that's spent a lot of time in oak barrels. For red wines, Spanish wines are, not surprisingly, a good choice since sangria is a Spanish invention. Tempranillo makes a good choice.

He has an interesting take on sangria, which is usually wine fortified with something a little stronger and augmented with sugar and spices. At Spoonbar, he's using a rose wine with pisco (Peruvian brandy), plus a little sugar, some water, fresh pineapple juice, cinnamon and a touch of clove. It's "really refreshing," which is good for Healdsburg, where temperatures can get toasty.

Joe Campanale, beverage director of four New York City neighborhood restaurants, encourages cocktail enthusiasts to get creative by mixing up their favorite single-serving cocktail in a pitcher for a group dinner or celebration. Keep the ingredients light, he advises, as in his Blame it on the Aperol cocktail served at the dell'anima restau-

rant which combines Aperol, Blue Coat gin, lemon juice in a pitcher with plenty of ice. Give

it a stir, pour into flute glasses and top off with sparkling wine for a bright effervescence.

62 high school students hopeful of a musical crown

NEW YORK (AP)—In a steaming, stuffy classroom downtown, it was time for some talented youngsters to face the music.

Half a dozen high school students from across the country were being critiqued on their singing and performance skills by a coach helping them prepare for the National High School Musical Theater Awards on Monday night.

One student from California was warned to perform "I Believe" from "The Book of Mormon" without an ounce of smirk. A teen from Utah was advised not to overthink a Stephen Sondheim lyric. And when a Colorado student wanted advice on whether she was better off singing a serious song from "Aida" or a funny one from "Cinderella," she was asked to sing both. The funny one came out on top.

"That's the one," said the coach, Tony Award-nominee Liz Callaway, whose Broadway credits include "Miss Saigon" and "Baby." The student, Nicole Seefried, seemed convinced—and relieved. "It is," she said, happily.

The teens were among 62 hoping to be crowned top actor and top actress at this year's contest. Now in its fifth year, the National High School Musical Theater Awards will be held Monday at the Minskoff Theatre, the long-term home of "The Lion King."

The 62 teens who made it to New York—31 girls and 31 boys—get a five-day theatrical boot camp at New York University's Tisch School of the Arts, complete with scrambling to learn an opening and closing group number, intense advice on their solo songs, plus a field trip to watch "Annie" on Broadway and dinner at famed theater-district hangout Sardi's. It's not all glamorous, though. Hours are spent in plain classrooms on plastic chairs, with battered pianos and bottles of water.

"It's an experience that's going to stay with them for the rest of their lives," said Van Kaplan, president of the awards organization and the show's director.

Both top winners will receive a scholarship award, capping a monthslong winnowing process that began with 50,000 students from

1,000 schools. This year's contestants come from 20 states: Georgia, Massachusetts, North Carolina, Illinois, Texas, Colorado, Iowa, Michigan, California, Pennsylvania, Missouri, Nevada, Utah, Wisconsin, Tennessee, New Jersey, New York, Connecticut, Florida and Kansas.

On Monday night, all 62 will perform snippets of the songs that they sung at regional competitions as part of several large medleys, and then six finalists—three boys and three girls—will be plucked to sing solos. The winners will be picked from the last six.

Kyle Selig, 20, of Long Beach, Calif., won the best actor award in 2010 and is now a student at Carnegie Mellon University. He returned to help out this year and managed to cram in a few auditions to Broadway shows, including "The Book of Mormon."

"It was a validation of what I should be doing," he said of his win.

In addition to Callaway, the tutors included theater pros Leslie Odom Jr., Michael McElroy and Telly Leung. The judges on Monday will include Tony-winning director Scott Ellis, Tony nominee Montego Glover and casting professional Bernie Telsey. The hosts will be Laura Osnes and Santino Fontana, who co-star in "Rodgers + Hammerstein's Cinderella."

Nicknamed the Jimmy Awards after theater owner James Nederlander, whose company is a co-sponsor of the ceremony, the awards spotlight a high level of talent and maturity for children ages 14 to 18. Performances can range from "Bye Bye Birdie" to "Legally Blonde" to "Sweeney Todd."

The number of programs sending students grows each year—it started with 16 and now stands at 31—and Kaplan says interest has been fueled by TV shows like "Glee" and "Smash."

The competition has also apparently reversed the trend away from arts funding for many regions. "Where usually arts programs are the very first things that get cut, we're seeing school districts invest in the arts because of programs like this," Kaplan says.

Publisher cancels multibook Paula Deen contract

Paula Deen's publisher has canceled a deal with her for multiple books, including an upcoming cookbook that was the No. 1 seller on Amazon.com and Barnes & Noble.com, following her admission she used a racial slur.

Ballantine Books announced Friday it would not release "Paula Deen's New Testament: 250 Favorite Recipes, All Lightened Up," which was scheduled for October and was the first of a five-book deal announced early last year. Interest in it had surged as Deen, who grew up in Albany, Ga., and specializes in Southern comfort food, came under increasing attack for acknowledging she had used the N-word.

Ballantine, an imprint of Random House Inc., said it had decided to cancel the book's publication after "careful consideration." It had no comment beyond what was in its brief statement, spokesman Stuart Applebaum said.

Later Friday, Deen's literary agent, Janis Donnaud, said that the entire deal had been called off.

"I am confident that these books will be published and that

we will have a new publisher," said Donnaud, who declined to comment on whether she had heard from other publishers.

The trouble for Deen started when comments she made in a court deposition became public. During the deposition in a discrimination lawsuit filed by an ex-employee, Deen admitted using the N-word in the past but denied using it to describe waiters.

Deen said she's not a racist during a tearful "Today" show interview but has lost many of her business relationships. Sears Holdings Corp. and J.C. Penney Co. said Friday that they were cutting ties with Deen following similar announcements from Wal-Mart Stores Inc., Target Corp. and Home Depot.

Last week, the Food Network said that it would not renew her contract. She also was dropped by Smithfield Foods, Caesars Entertainment stripped her name from restaurants and drug company Novo Nordisk said it was suspending its work with her.

Publishers have pulled a wide range of books over the years, usually because of plagiarism, fabrications or other issues with the books themselves.



In this Dec. 30, 2010 file photo, Paula Deen speaks in Pasadena, Calif. AP

Ballantine's decision highlights a problem for Deen even when the product itself has not been challenged and is in high demand.

Some outlets that might have sold her books, such as Target and Wal-Mart, have cut ties with her. Other stores likely would

have been reluctant to promote her new book or to invite her for personal appearances.

Because "Paula Deen's New Testament" was months away from release, no copies had been printed. All purchases had been pre-orders, so refunds aren't necessary.

Stones play long-awaited Glastonbury gig

PILTON, England (AP)—There's a first time for everything, even if you're the Rolling Stones.

The rock rabble-rousers who formed half a century ago played Britain's Glastonbury Festival on Saturday, their debut appearance at the country's most prestigious rock music event.

A majority of the 135,000 festival ticket-holders crammed into the fields in front of Glastonbury's Pyramid Stage for the gig, which opened with a rousing "Jumpin' Jack Flash."

As on recent tour dates, the Stones gave fans a fistful of classic hits—including "It's Only Rock 'n' Roll (But I Like It)," "Paint it Black," "Wild Horses" and "Gimme Shelter"—as well as newer songs.

There was even a brand-new folksy number called "Glastonbury Girl," written specially for the occasion.

Singer Mick Jagger, who turns 70 in July, has lost none of his swagger, strutting the stage in a sequined green jacket, a satin-lined black cape—on "Sympathy For the Devil"—and other eye-catching outfits.

He thanked fans who had followed the band for five decades, and told newcomers, "do come



AP
Mick Jagger of The Rolling Stones performs at Glastonbury, England on Saturday, June 29, 2013.

again," before giving the crowd what it had been waiting for—an encore of "Satisfaction."

In a pre-show BBC radio interview, Jagger gave no clue about whether the band he started with Keith Richards in 1962 will ever call it quits. He said, "I've no

idea," before telling an interviewer that he'd probably continue as long as he was wanted.

The band recently played a string of North American dates on its "50 and Counting" tour and is due to play two concerts in London's Hyde Park

next month.

The Stones turned down offers to play Glastonbury for years, but appeared to embrace the down-to-earth spirit of the festival, held on a farm in southwest England. On Saturday, Jagger tweeted a picture of himself outside a yurt, a Mongolian-style felt tent where he reportedly spent the night.

And he told the crowd he had been to see Friday night's headliners, Arctic Monkeys.

Guitarist Richards said ahead of the show that the band was "destined to play Glastonbury."

"I look upon it as a culmination of our British heritage really," he said. "It had to be done."

The Glastonbury Festival was founded by Michael Eavis in 1970 on his Worthy Farm near Pilton, 120 miles (193 kilometers) southwest of London. It is famous for its eclectic lineup—and the mud that overwhelms the site in rainy years.

Other performers on Saturday included Elvis Costello and Primal Scream. But for many festivalgoers, the Stones were the main event.

The three-day festival wraps up Sunday with a headlining set from Britain's Mumford & Sons.

Stylist warned Jackson manager singer might die

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Michael Jackson's longtime stylist told jurors Friday that she tried to warn the singer's manager that concert promoter AEG Live LLC would look responsible if the singer died because of numerous signs his health was declining.

Hair and makeup artist Karen Faye testified about two emails she sent to Jackson's manager Frank Dileo within the five days before the singer's death that his

health was deteriorating. In one of the messages, Faye warned Dileo that he and AEG Live CEO Randy Phillips might become "villains" or "financial victims" if Jackson were to die while preparing or performing a series of comeback shows called "This Is It."

Faye said she struck a dire tone in the messages because she felt that earlier concerns about Jackson's health had been ignored.

Faye sent the warning that

Jackson may die in a message on June 20, 2009—five days before the singer died of an overdose of the anesthetic propofol. Two days later, on June 22, she sent the warning about Dileo, Phillips and tour director Kenny Ortega being held financially responsible for the entertainer's demise.

"I don't think you, Kenny, or Randy deserve becoming the villains, or the financial victims,"

her email states. She wrote that the message was "between you and me alone."

She told jurors she was concerned the men "could be responsible for that in some way. Just kind of like where we are right now," she said, referencing Katherine Jackson's ongoing civil case against AEG Live.

Ortega was initially sued by Jackson's mother, but was dismissed from the case.

As 10,000 watch, opera giants battle to draw

MUNICH, Germany (AP)—It's a question that has long prompted heated arguments among devoted opera fans: Who was the greater composer, Richard Wagner or Giuseppe Verdi?

Both were born exactly 200 years ago, and so in this year of their bicentennials, the Bavarian State Opera decided to settle the question once and for all. Sort of.

Even though the two men never met in real life, they came face to face on Friday night in the form of giant puppets wearing boxing gloves, cheered on by

a crowd estimated by police at nearly 10,000 spectators in Max Joseph Platz next to the National Theater.

The puppets—Verdi in top hat and Wagner wearing a beret—were the centerpieces of an extravaganza featuring more than three dozen aerial acrobats, fireworks, a chorus line and two wind orchestras and two brass bands totaling about 240 musicians.

The show was one of a series of free events being organized in the square as part of the annual Mu-

nich Opera Festival, which runs to the end of July. It was staged by La Fura dels Baus, a maverick theatrical troupe from Barcelona that has also created opera productions for the company.

After introductory music by local composer Moritz Eggert, the puppets, who had marched through town followed by crowds of admirers, launched into a heated debate over who was superior. Wagner claimed the intellectual advantage, while Verdi insisted that people responded more to the emotion in his melodies.

The minute show is "It Begins With A Spark."

The barges are to be set up on the river between Manhattan's West 24th and 42nd streets, with fireworks shooting about 1,000 feet into the air.

The plans began a year ago in Rialto, Calif., where Souza is part of the current generation of a family that runs Pyro Spectaculars by Souza.

Sixty pyrotechnicians worked on Staten Island all weekend before the holiday to prepare the high-tech digital animation.

Philly rapper ordered to take etiquette classes

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—A judge has ordered rapper Meek Mill to attend etiquette classes and notify his probation officer before he takes any trips outside of the commonwealth.

Common Pleas Court Judge Genece Brinkley on Friday told the rapper, whose real name is Robert Williams, he must complete the classes before Aug. 4, The Philadelphia Inquirer reported.

The orders came at a probation violation hearing for Williams, who is on probation for a 2008 gun and drug conviction for which he was sentenced to 11 to 23 months in prison. He served eight months in jail and began five years of probation in the fall of 2009.

Assistant District Attorney Noel Ann DeSantis said Williams' statements on Twitter and other social media had been followed by threats to his probation officer from some of his fans.

Williams told the judge at the contentious hearing that detailing his travel plans was difficult because many of his business activities are arranged on short notice.

Visiting mom's sweet perfume puts household in sour mood

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: My problem is my mother-in-law and her abundant use of perfume. The last time she visited, it was so bad we had to open our windows to air out the rooms. (This was in January in Minnesota.)

My husband addressed the problem with her when I was pregnant, but now that the baby is here she's back to her old habits.

We are all sensitive to perfumes and get headaches when exposed to it. When she visits, we can't get away from the smell. I don't wear perfume, but was always told that "perfume is to be discovered, never announced." However, when I say that around her, she dismisses it.

What's the proper etiquette in addressing the perfume cloud that surrounds her?

THE NOSE KNOWS

DEAR NOSE: I receive complaints about perfumes almost daily. Perfume "in abundance" can cause serious allergic reactions in people who are sensitive to it. And when they are exposed to it in enclosed places (elevators, airplanes, houses with storm windows, gymnasiums, etc.), it can cause real problems.

Your mother-in-law should be reminded again that her perfume is causing headaches and asked to please not use it around you. Depending upon how old she is and her sense of smell, she may not realize she is using as much as she is.

Women's perfumes and men's after-shave lotions and colognes can also cause problems at the gym. When people who are exercising begin to sweat, the smell can become overpowering and a nuisance to others. Scents that were applied the day before can turn rancid, so a shower before working out would be considerate if this could be you.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I have a son, "Billy," who will be 9 soon. He was conceived through rape by a man who was physically, emotionally and sexually abusive, as well as controlling and manipulative. He threatened to kill me and Billy, but I eventually got free. I have a criminal no-contact order on him, and he has no legal rights to Billy.

I have raised my son without any knowledge of his father. I feel it would be cruel to tell him how he came into the world. My mother disagrees. She thinks it will backfire if and when Billy finds out. She points out that Billy has two half-sisters he doesn't know about. I don't like to keep that from him.

I need to protect my son, no matter what. But am I doing the right thing? I sometimes question what is in my son's best interest and that of our relationship. Please give me some advice.

LIVING IN THE PRESENT

DEAR LIVING IN THE PRESENT: I'm surprised your son hasn't already asked about his father, because surely he must have questions. When Billy asks, he should be told some of the truth in an age-appropriate way. He does not need to know about the rape, but he should know that his father was violent, so for your safety and his, the courts decided Billy's father should not be in contact with the two of you. Billy should also be told that until he is an adult it will have to remain that way.

When he's older, he can be told that there are half-siblings. (I agree with your mother on that.) While you can't protect your son forever, you can keep him safe until he's old enough to process the information.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

NYC Fourth of July: 'It Begins with a Spark'

NEW YORK (AP)—What's new this Fourth of July?

A happy face with a wink exploding over New York City as part of Macy's Fourth of July Fireworks 2013—the nation's biggest display.

That's one of the spectacles being prepared to light up the sky on Thursday. Forty thousand shells were being loaded onto four barges in the city's Staten Island borough on Saturday in preparation for the massive celebration.

The exact location is kept se-

cret for security reasons.

The barges will sit on the Hudson River for the show to be seen by an estimated 3 million people watching live in New York and New Jersey, plus millions more on television. Grammy-award winning musician Usher has created the soundtrack.

Show co-designer Gary Souza said organizers have scoured the world to find and purchase the most original new fireworks—from China and Portugal to Spain and Malta.

The theme for this year's 25-

Pastimes

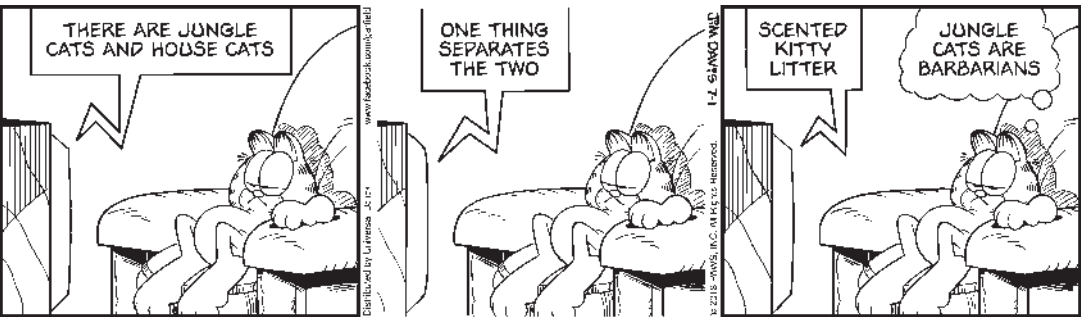
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



Garfield®

By Jim Davis



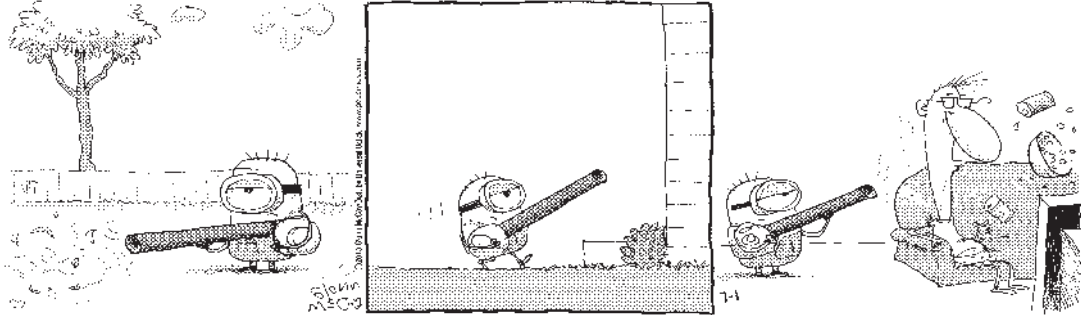
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Plankton minutia

5 Tasseled topper

8 St. Louis NFLers

12 Add more coverage

14 Way out

15 Cordelia's dad

16 Passport endorsement

17 Slithery fish

18 Brunch entree

20 Burn with steam

23 Yesterday (Fr.)

24 Coffee shop vessels

25 Archie's insult for Edith

28 Wager

29 Houston hockey team

30 AAA task

32 Lead pilot's helper

34 Speck

35 Calla lily, e.g.

36 Lounged about

37 Big cat

40 Charged bit

41 Hearty brews

42 Quoits, e.g.

47 Region

48 With child

49 Catherine — -Jones

50 Modern-day evidence

51 Protein bean

2 Hawaiian garland

3 Martini ingredient

4 Dan Brown's "— & Demons"

5 Gas or oil

6 Historic period

7 Take dead aim at

8 Echo, for short

9 Branch-stem angle

10 — -en-scene

11 Numerical factoid

13 Coaster

19 Fractions of gigs

20 Hero sandwich

21 Group of rowers

22 Con

23 Distiller Walker

25 Objected

26 The gamut

27 Carry

29 Taj Mahal city

31 Marry

33 Motion sickness, e.g.

34 Praying bug

36 Theater box

37 Satchmo's genre

38 Lotion additive

39 Friendly bloke

40 Erstwhile Peruvian

43 Hostel

44 Yoko of music

45 Pigpen

46 Carib-bean or Coral

Solution time: 27 mins.

Last Friday's answer 7-1

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Liv Tyler, 36; Missy Elliott, 42; Pamela Anderson, 46; Dan Aykroyd, 61.

Happy Birthday: Make reasonable, well-thought-out decisions. Acting impulsively due to emotional circumstances will be your downfall. Spend time honing your skills. Taking a different approach to what you do will help bring about opportunities that can lead to a unique position. A creative suggestion, discipline and determination will go a long way. Protect your physical and financial future. Your numbers are 9, 13, 21, 28, 34, 42, 44.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Regret is a waste of time. Look ahead and make positive plans. Fix up your surroundings to suit your needs. Don't fold under pressure or let someone's change of plans disrupt what you want to pursue. Love is in the stars. ***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Stick close to home and abide by the rules. Don't hold back information or take someone else's word. Do your research and make your plans based on your findings. An unexpected occurrence will cause emotional interference. Protect your health and wellness. ***

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Take your time, do things right and you will attract people and projects that will encourage your success. Love and romance are on the rise, and a change of people or destinations will lead to fun. ****

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Let your creative imagination wander and you will come up with great ideas that can help you explore new avenues and options. Don't let what others do or the changes going on around you put a

dampener on what you can accomplish. **

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Share your concerns along with your solutions. Take charge by making a contribution that will enforce your dedication. Appeal to others emotionally and you will get the biggest response. Protect your assets and encourage personal growth. Love is highlighted. *****

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You will be taken advantage of if you don't stipulate what you will and won't do. Making a donation will leave you in a vulnerable position. Invest in your future, your home and your family. Avoid impulsive spending. ***

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't give in to ultimatums. Step away from a situation that causes stress so you can get a clear picture and make a sound decision. Overreacting on your part or someone else's will end in irreconcilable differences. ***

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Forward thinking will lead to prosperity. Experiment and you will discover a way to put your skills to better use. Working from home or adjusting your surroundings to be more conducive to the accomplishments you are trying to make will pay off. ***

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): A relationship or physical change can lead to a move or alter the way you live. An open-minded attitude will help you deter any repercussions involving a partnership that is going through changes. Spend less on frivolous desires. ***

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Make sure to spend some time with the people who make you happy. Move things around

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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at home or fix up a space that you can call your own. Working toward a happier and healthier lifestyle will bring good results. A partnership looks promising. *****

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't limit what you can do. Put your heart into making the changes that will help you improve your current living situation. Self-improvement through physical actions will bring good results. Love is on the rise, and romance will enhance your day. *****

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Rely on past experience. Your options are good, but you must take the time to ensure that what you are trying to accomplish is reasonable. Practicality will be a must if you want to make progress and profits. ***

Birthday Baby: You are loving, loyal and bound by tradition. You are aggressive and possessive.

Eugenia's Web sites: eugenialast.com for confidential consultations, eugenialast.com/blog/ for Eugenia's blog and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

	6		9			5					
7		8				6		2			
	4		5	2	6		8				
		3	2		7	5					
4		6				1		9			
		5	4		9	8					
	2		3	8	1		6				
5		1				9		4			
	3			4		1					

Difficulty Level ★ 7/01

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's SUDOKU Answer

5	3	1	4	6	8	9	7	2
8	2	9	3	5	7	1	4	6
7	6	4	2	9	1	3	8	5
6	4	7	8	1	2	5	9	3
9	8	5	6	3	4	7	2	1
3	1	2	5	7	9	8	6	4
4	7	8	1	2	3	6	5	9
1	9	6	7	4	5	2	3	8
2	5	3	9	8	6	4	1	7

Difficulty Level ★★★★★ 6/28

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

'WHAT NOT TO WEAR' (REALITY TV SHOW) Solution: 8 letters

B	C	M	T	U	P	S	C	A	L	E	L	Y	T	S
O	L	A	E	D	R	E	S	S	F	S	K	I	R	T
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Williams, Djokovic show who's No. 1 at Wimbledon



LONDON (AP)—As the sun set on the opening week of Wimbledon, just about the only seeding that truly signified something was No. 1.

That's the number beside the names of Serena Williams and Novak Djokovic, who turned in nearly perfect performances back-to-back Saturday on Centre Court to cap nearly perfect runs to the fourth round at the All England Club, while chaos reigned all around them.

In the final match of the fortnight's first half, played with the roof closed and lights glowing to make sure it would get done as darkness approached, defending champion Williams used eight aces and 11 return winners to power past 42-year-old Kimiko Date-Krumm of Japan 6-2, 6-0 in 61 minutes.

"She didn't lose energy, and her game, I think, is getting better, day after day. Not better in general, but adapting to the surface. Everything is getting better," said French coach Patrick Mouratoglou, who has been working with Williams over the past year, when she is 77-3. "So now let's enter into the most important part of the tournament. ... Now the matches are going to get tougher and tougher."

Might not necessarily have been a fair fight, considering that Date-Krumm is ranked 84th and was the oldest woman to reach the third round at Wimbledon in the 45-year Open era. Never better than a semifinalist at a Grand Slam tournament, she played Williams evenly for about three games, before the 16-time major champion took over.

"She has so much power, speed," Date-Krumm said. "She has everything."

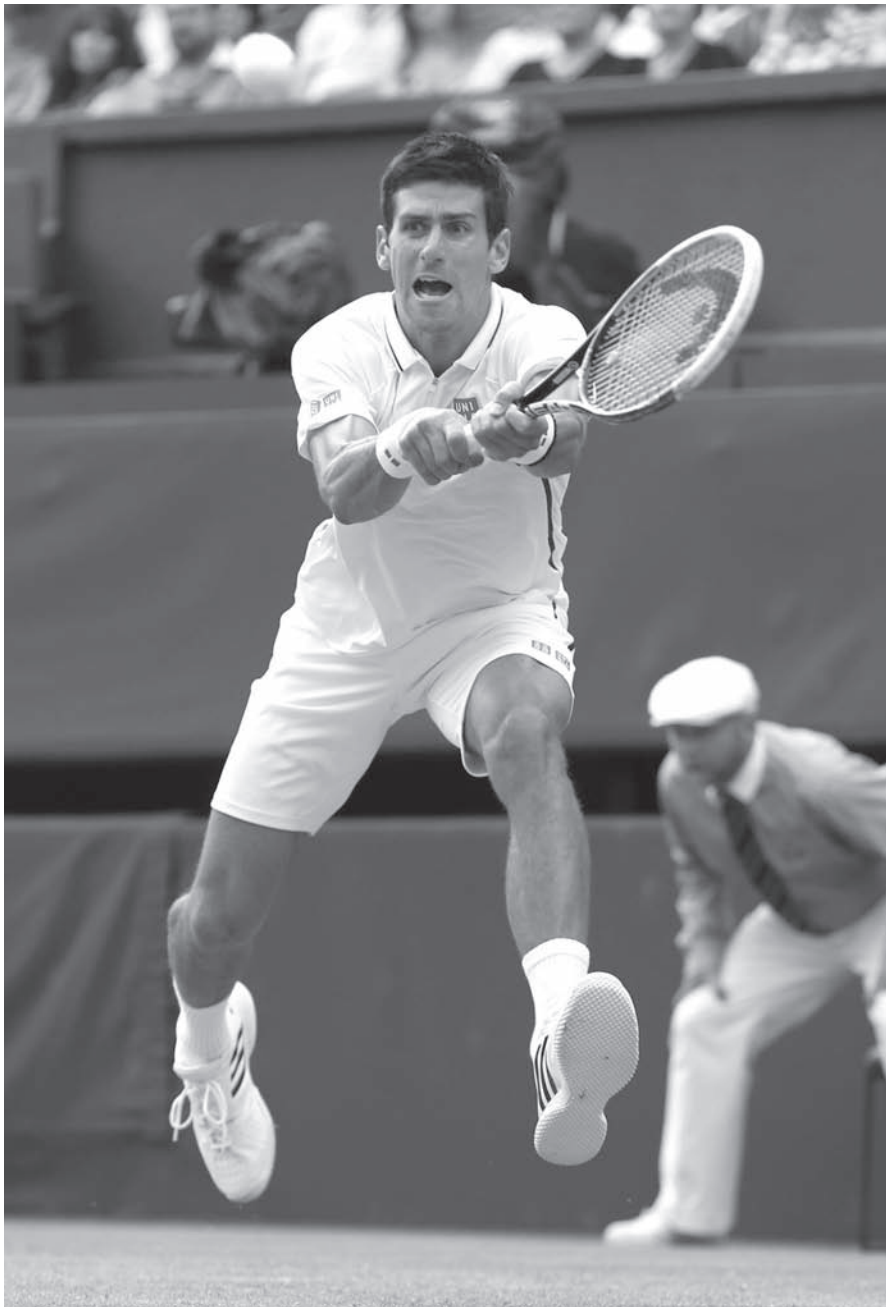
Williams' easy win followed the 6-3, 6-2, 6-2 victory over 28th-seeded Jeremy Chardy of France turned in by 2011 champion Djokovic, who compiled a remarkable ratio of 38 winners to three unforced errors. The Serb's initial miscue of his own doing did not come until the third set's sixth game, when he double-faulted while ahead 4-1, 40-love.

"Everything went my way," Djokovic said. "I did everything I wanted to do."

Both he and Williams could say that about the way they handled matters throughout Week 1.

Williams has won all six sets she's played, allowing her opponents a total of 11 games. Djokovic has won all of his nine sets, dropping 29 games.

"You don't want to play your best tennis in the first round and continue to



Novak Djokovic of Serbia returns to Jeremy Chardy of France in their Men's singles match at the All England Lawn Tennis Championships in Wimbledon, London, Saturday, June 29, 2013.

go down. I feel like I try to play better as each match goes on," said Williams, whose 34-match winning streak is the longest for a woman since older sister Venus had a run of 35 in 2000. "I try to find out something I can improve on from each match so I can do it better in the next round."

In other words: Look out, Sabine Lisicki, the 23rd-seeded German who will meet Williams on Monday for a quarterfinal berth.

Up next for Djokovic after the middle Sunday's traditional day of rest is another German, 13th-seeded Tommy Haas, the 35-year-old who is enjoying a career renaissance and eliminated Feliciano Lopez of Spain 4-6, 6-2, 7-5, 6-4.

How certain was Lisicki that she would be dealing with Williams and not Date-Krumm? Lisicki tweeted a photo of her with Haas early in the second set of Williams' match, writing: "Last Germans standing" and "We both play the no. 1's next."

Take a glance around, and a high seeding has mattered very little, with the notable exception of No. 2 Andy Murray, Djokovic's potential foe in the final. Indeed, in many cases, any seeding at all has guaranteed nothing whatsoever. The men's Nos. 3, 5, 6, 9 and 10 are all gone, including Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal, with their 29 combined Grand Slam titles. The women's Nos. 2, 3, 5, 7, 9 and 10 are out, too, including four-time major champion

Maria Sharapova and two-time Australian Open winner Victoria Azarenka.

Even during a pair of victories Saturday, both No. 4-seeded players, David Ferrer and Agnieszka Radwanska, looked shaky. Ferrer, the French Open runner-up this month, was treated for blisters on his right foot while coming back to beat No. 26 Alexandr Dolgoplov of Ukraine 6-7 (6), 7-6 (2), 2-6, 6-1, 6-2. Radwanska, who lost to Williams in last year's Wimbledon final, was pushed to three sets by 18-year-old American Madison Keys before winning 7-5, 4-6, 6-3.

"I'm very happy to be a little bit better," Radwanska said. "It was really close. Every set was really tight."

The highest-seeded man other than Murray on his half of the field is No. 20 Mikhail Youzhny, who will play the 2012 U.S. Open champion and Wimbledon runner-up after defeating Viktor Troicki 6-3, 6-4, 7-5.

Otherwise, Saturday's winners on that side of the men's draw were 130th-ranked Lukasz Kubot of Poland, who beat No. 25 Benoit Paire 6-1, 6-3, 6-4; 80th-ranked Kenny de Schepper of France, who defeated No. 22 Juan Monaco 6-4, 7-6 (8), 6-4; and 54th-ranked Fernando Verdasco of Spain, a 6-2, 6-4, 6-4 winner against Ernests Gulbis.

Things have generally been less hectic on Djokovic's portion of the tournament, but No. 9 Richard Gasquet lost 7-6 (7), 5-7, 7-5, 7-6 (5) to 20-year-old Bernard Tomic, whose father has been barred from tournaments after being accused of head-butting Tomic's hitting partner. No. 23 Andreas Seppi of Italy, meanwhile, won his seventh consecutive five-setter, edging No. 12 Kei Nishikori 3-6, 6-2, 6-7 (4), 6-1, 6-4, and 49th-ranked Ivan Dodig of Croatia moved on when Igor Sijsling retired while trailing 6-0, 6-1, 1-0, the 13th player to stop mid-match or withdraw before one, equaling a tournament high.

For a moment, it looked as if there might be a 14th when No. 8 Juan Martin del Potro hyperextended his left knee as chased a ball late in his 7-5, 7-6 (3), 6-0 defeat of Grega Zemlja. The 2009 U.S. Open went champion sprawling face-forward into the players' chairs and racket bags on the sideline.

"It was really painful," del Potro said. "I was a little scared."

Del Potro and Murray each own one Grand Slam title, the only two of the last 33 not claimed by Federer, Nadal or Djokovic.

There isn't a lot of company for Williams in the major championship department, either. Two women with one apiece advanced Saturday, though: 2011 Wimbledon winner Petra Kvitova and 2011 French Open winner Li Na.

Otherwise, just as with the men, there are some fresh faces among the women. That includes 19-year-old Laura Robson, the first British woman to reach Wimbledon's fourth round since 1998; 19-year-old Monica Puig of Puerto Rico; and 20-year-old Sloane Stephens of the U.S., who'll face Puig on Monday.

That matchup prompted this question for Stephens from a reporter: Is there pressure for you when you're playing someone in the next round who you're older than?

"Like a year, OK," Stephens said. "No, not really."

At 31, Williams is the oldest No. 1 in WTA rankings history, but she's still more than a decade Date-Krumm's junior.

"I honestly never thought I would play until my 30s, to be honest. I don't see my stopping any time soon," she said. "However, I don't see myself playing into my 40s. That's why I have so much respect for Kimiko."

They spent a good chunk of the early evening wondering where and when they would play, because their match was scheduled to be last on Court 1, where Ferrer and Dolgoplov went to a fifth set. It wasn't until 7:59 p.m., minutes after Djokovic's match ended, that the Wimbledon referee's office announced it was shifting Williams' match to Centre Court, with the roof shut and lights on.

Williams was rather dominant serving and receiving. In the first set, she delivered seven aces at up to 116 mph, at least one in each of her four services game, and hit nine return winners, at least one in each of Date-Krumm's four service games.

When it was over, Williams wagged an index finger in the air, as if to remind all she is No. 1, then exchanged high-fives with some fans.

"Every time I go out there, I tell you, I feel like anything can happen. I don't feel invincible. I feel like anything can happen," she said. "More than anything, that keeps me completely motivated."

Mayhem marks start of 100th Tour de France



BASTIA, Corsica (AP)—Riders at the Tour de France know to expect the unexpected.

But nothing could have prepared them for the mayhem that turned Saturday's first stage of the 100th Tour into a demolition derby on two wheels.

Seemingly for the first time at the 110-year-old race, one of the big buses that carry the teams around France when they're not on their bikes got stuck at the finish line, literally wedged under scaffolding, unable to move. The timing couldn't

have been worse: The blockage happened as the speeding peloton was racing for home, less than 12 miles out.

Fearing the worst—a possible collision between 198 riders and the bus—race organizers took the split-second decision to shorten the race. Word went out to riders over their radios and they adapted tactics accordingly, cranking up their speed another notch to be first to the new line, now 1.8 miles closer than originally planned.

Then, somewhat miraculously, the bus for the Orica

Greenedge team wriggled free. So organizers reverted to Plan A. Again over the radios, word went out to by-now confused riders and teams that the race would finish as first intended—on a long straightaway alongside the shimmering turquoise Mediterranean, where an expectant crowd waited to cheer the first stage winner of the 100th Tour.

Then, bam! Two riders collided and one of them went down, setting off a chain of spills that scythed through the pack like a bowling ball.

And this was just Day

One. The bad news for riders: They've still got another 20 stages and 1,982 more miles to survive to the finish in Paris.

Keeping his head and riding his luck amid the chaos, Marcel Kittel sprinted for the win, claiming the first yellow jersey.

"It feels like I have gold on my shoulders," said the German rider for the Argos-Shimano team.

The 22 teams know from experience that the first days of any Tour are always tough. Everyone is nervous, full of energy and jostling for position. Adding to the stress this year is the race start in Corsica. The island's winding and

often narrow roads that snake along idyllic coastlines and over jagged mountains are superbly telegenic but a worry for race favorites—the likes of Team Sky's Chris Froome and two-time former champion Alberto Contador—because a fall or big loss of time here could ruin their Tour before it really begins.

Froome survived Day One more or less unscathed. Contador didn't. The Spaniard, back at the Tour after a doping ban which also cost him his 2010 victory, crossed the line grimacing in pain, his left shoulder cut and bruised. He was tangled in the crash that threw

about 20 riders to the tarmac. Contador said he'll be sore for a few days, "but I still have enough time to recover."

Even for the Tour, which has seen more than its fair share of dramas in 99 previous editions, Saturday's calamitous chain of events was exceptional.

"We've never had to change the finish line before," said Jean-Francois Pescheux, the event director who helps pick the route each year. "There's never been a bus stuck before."

The blockage at the line presented organizers with two solutions: cancel the stage entirely or shorten it, he said. They took the second option.

Cavaliers take Bennett with No. 1 pick



NEW YORK (AP)—Anthony Bennett learned he would be making NBA draft history the same time as everyone else.

“When they said my name,” Bennett said. “That’s when I knew it happened. I had no idea before.”

Who did? The Cleveland Cavaliers surprisingly made Bennett the first Canadian No. 1 overall pick, and Nerlens Noel tumbled out of the top five and right into a trade Thursday night in an unsettled first round of the draft.

“It was chaotic from the first pick,” Minnesota president Flip Saunders said. “When Bennett was taken off the board, that set the tone for the whole draft.”

There were moves all night, all of them taking a back seat to one in the works for the team that calls Barclays Center home.

The Brooklyn Nets will acquire Paul Pierce and Kevin Garnett from Boston in a blockbuster deal that was still developing as the draft neared its conclusion, according to a person with knowledge of the details.

“There was a lot of activity,” said Nets general manager Billy King, who wouldn’t comment on the trade. “As you guys will find out, there will be a lot of trades that are announced.”

His can’t be until July 10, after next season’s salary cap is set.

As for the draft, it was as unpredictable as expected, capped by Hakeem Olajuwon coming on stage at the end of the first round to greet David Stern, dressed in the same tuxedo style he wore when Stern

called his name to start the soon-to-be retired commissioner’s first draft in 1984.

One of the favorites to be taken first Thursday night, Noel fell to No. 6, where the New Orleans Pelicans took him and then dealt his rights to the Philadelphia 76ers for a package headlined by All-Star guard Jrue Holiday, according to a person familiar with the details. That trade can’t become official until July 10 because of salary cap concerns, according to another official with knowledge of the deal.

The Cavaliers started things by passing on centers Noel and Alex Len, who went to Phoenix at No. 5, in favor of Bennett, the UNLV freshman forward who starred for Canada’s junior national teams and was the Mountain West Conference freshman of the year. Bennett led a record 12 international players who were taken in the first round.

“I’m just as surprised as anyone else,” Bennett said.

There was suspense right until the end of the Cavs’ 5-minute window to make their selection, either because they were unsure who they wanted or were trying to trade the pick. Most predictions had them taking one of the big men, with Noel largely considered the favorite for the No. 1 choice even after a torn ACL that ended his lone season at Kentucky in February.

“I thought everything was in the air, so I wasn’t thinking I was the No. 1 pick,” Noel said.

Stern, booed heavily for most of his final draft, added to the surprise of the moment by pausing slightly before announcing



NBA Commissioner David Stern, left, shakes hands with UNLV's Anthony Bennett, who was selected first overall by the Cleveland Cavaliers in the NBA basketball draft, Thursday, June 27, 2013, in New York.

the Cavs’ pick, their first at No. 1 since taking All-Star Kyrie Irving in 2011.

Orlando passed on both of the big men, too, going with Indiana swingman Victor Oladipo with the No. 2 pick. Washington took Otto Porter Jr. with the third pick, keeping the Georgetown star in town.

Ten years after the Cavaliers selected LeBron James to start a draft that included future NBA championship teammates Dwyane Wade and Chris Bosh

in the top five, this one lacked star power and perhaps even the promise of stardom.

Bennett, Noel and Len are all coming off injuries and couldn’t even work out for teams, but the Cavs decided Bennett’s shoulder surgery wasn’t enough cause for concern.

Len walked up to meet Stern and collect his orange Suns hat, then sat down near the stage to put on the walking boot he needs for the stress fracture of his left ankle that was discov-

ered after Maryland’s season.

Noel finally went to New Orleans with the next pick. He didn’t seem upset at his fall down the draft board, hugging his mother and shaking hands with Kentucky coach John Calipari.

It was a good start to the night for the Hoosiers, with Cody Zeller going to the Charlotte Bobcats two places after Oladipo.

Kansas guard Ben McLemore, another player who was considered a potential top-three pick, also dropped, going seventh to Sacramento.

Headed by a lackluster class, the draft promised confusion and second-guessing, with no consensus No. 1 pick and little agreement among the order of the top five.

And with lesser-known names in the draft, veterans soaked up the spotlight in the hours leading up to it.

Yahoo Sports first reported that the Nets and Celtics were working on the trade that would complete the breakup of the Celtics’ veteran core.

ESPN reported earlier Thursday that Dwight Howard was unlikely to return to the Los Angeles Lakers when he becomes a free agent next month.

The guys coming into the league were glad for the attention they did finally get once their names were called.

“It’s like a weight vest you took off after running five miles,” Oladipo said. “It’s relaxing, man. But at the same time, you know it’s just getting started.”

National player of the year Trey Burke of Michigan also was traded, the Timberwolves

sending his rights to Utah for the rights to Shabazz Muhammad and Gorgui Dieng, the 14th and 21st picks.

Lehigh’s C.J. McCollum rounded out the top 10 by going to Portland.

Stern, retiring in February, seemed to play up the boos, which turned to cheers after every pick, fans perhaps as puzzled as some of the players at the names they were hearing.

“I was just kidding my agent because he didn’t bail me out,” Zeller said. “He didn’t tell me. I didn’t know until David Stern announced it. It’s a crazy process not knowing, but I’m definitely excited that I ended up with the Bobcats.”

Other players couldn’t get too excited about their new addresses, because they changed quickly.

Stern was announcing deals by the middle of the first round and they kept coming after he called it a night and turned things over to Deputy Commissioner Adam Silver for the final 30 picks.

The flurry of trades wasn’t surprising with so much uncertainty surrounding this class and so much hope in other areas. Teams such as Houston, Dallas and Atlanta already have an eye on Howard’s future, needing to have necessary salary cap space to offer a maximum contract that could lure him away from Los Angeles.

The 2014 class—which could be topped by a second straight Canadian in incoming Kansas freshman Andrew Wiggins—will be higher regarded than this one, with James perhaps heading the available free agents to follow.

Bautista HRs twice, Blue Jays beat Red Sox, 6-2



BOSTON (AP)—Jose Bautista hit a pair of long homers over the Green Monster, starting

with the 200th of his career and following with a tiebreaking, two-run drive off Junichi Tazawa in the eighth inning that led the Toronto Blue Jays over the Boston Red Sox 6-2 Saturday.

After Shane Victorino’s two-run single against Steve Delabar (5-1) tied the score in the seventh, Bautista followed Jose Reyes’ leadoff single in the eighth with a drive off Tazawa (4-3) that went off the base of a light-tower in left-center. Bautista has 18 home runs this season and 21st career multihomer games.

Indians 4, White Sox 3

In Chicago, Nick Swisher singled in the tiebreaking run in the eighth inning, and Cleveland beat the White Sox for the third time in less than 24 hours.

Swisher’s homer in the ninth inning Friday night helped Cleveland secure a sweep of a marathon doubleheader Friday night.

Twins 6, Royals 2

In Minneapolis, Kyle Gibson pitched six solid innings in his major league debut, and Trevor Plouffe homered to help the Twins beat the Royals.

Gibson (1-0) allowed two runs and eight hits, and he struck out five to become the first first-round pick in Twins history to win a start in his major league debut.

Angels 7, Astros 2

In Houston, Joe Blanton pitched seven sharp innings, and Howie Kendrick and Chris Iannetta both homered to give the Angels their fifth straight win.

Alberto Callaspo and Erick Aybar drove in two runs apiece in a big fourth inning for Los Angeles.

Orioles 11, Yankees 3

In Baltimore, Chris Davis homered twice to raise his major league-leading total to 30, and Baltimore extended New York’s losing streak to four games.

Davis hit a three-run drive in the first inning and added a two-run shot in the sixth, his third multihomer game of the season. The five RBIs gave him 79, second-most in the big leagues and just six short of his career high.

Rays 4, Tigers 3, 10 innings

In St. Petersburg, Florida, Yunel Escobar had an RBI single in the bottom of the 10th inning as Tampa Bay rallied to beat Detroit.

James Loney had a one-out single

off Bruce Rondon (0-1). Pinch-runner Sam Fuld went to second on Wil Myers’ single, and after Luke Scott struck out, both runners advanced on a wild pitch.

Cardinals 7, Athletics 1

In Oakland, California, Adam Wainwright pitched a five-hitter to become the NL’s second 11-game winner, Matt Adams had his first two-homer game and the Cardinals beat the Athletics.

Wainwright (11-5) tied Washington’s Jordan Zimmerman for most wins in the NL. He struck out eight and walked two in a 112-pitch performance for his fourth complete game this year and 15th of his career.

Reds 6, Rangers 4, 11 innings

In Arlington, Texas, Devin Mesoraco hit a two-run homer in the 11th inning and Cincinnati snapped a three-game losing streak with a win over AL West-leading Texas.

Mesoraco was 0 for 4 with three strikeouts before his 380-foot homer into the left-field seats off Kyle McClellan (0-1), which came right after Todd Frazier was hit by a pitch to start the 11th.

Cubs 5, Mariners 3, 11 innings

In Seattle, Alfonso Soriano hit a two-

run homer in the 11th inning to lift Chicago.

Nate Schierholtz opened the 11th with a drag bunt off Oliver Perez (2-2). Soriano then connected on a 1-2 pitch over the center-field wall, his ninth.

Nationals 5, Mets 1

In New York, Dillon Gee beat Washington for the third time this season and the New York Mets scored the go-ahead run when third baseman Ryan Zimmerman and shortstop Ian Desmond made errors on the same play to top the Nationals.

Daniel Murphy delivered three hits, and first baseman Josh Satin started a pair of double plays for the Mets. The Nationals fell back to .500, losing to the team with the worst home record in the majors.

Braves 11, Diamondbacks 5

In Atlanta, Jason Heyward hit a tying RBI double, and Andrelton Simmons scored the go-ahead run on the same play in a seven-run eighth inning that lifted Atlanta over Arizona.

The Braves rallied for their 23rd comeback victory, tops in the National League. Atlanta has won two straight and four of five.

Rockies 2, Giants 1

In Denver, Nolan Arenado hit a game-

ending single with two outs in the ninth inning to lift Colorado over San Francisco, which has lost six straight for the first time in three years.

Colorado’s Michael Cuddyer singled in the first inning to extend his hitting streak to 26 straight games.

Marlins 7, Padres 1

In Miami, Jacob Turner pitched a seven-hitter for his first complete game in 19 career starts, helping Miami beat San Diego.

The complete game was the first for the Marlins this year. They had been outscored 20-3 while losing their first four games to San Diego this season, but the lowest-scoring team in the majors gave Turner a 6-0 lead after four innings.

Pirates 2, Brewers 1

In Pittsburgh, Pedro Alvarez and Garrett Jones homered and Francisco Lirio pitched six strong innings as surging Pittsburgh won its eighth straight game and sent Milwaukee to its fifth straight loss.

Alvarez hit his 20th home run with one out in the second inning to extend his hitting streak to 12 games and help the Pirates to their longest winning streak since 2004. Pittsburgh (50-30), which has endured 20 consecutive losing seasons, has the best record in the major leagues.

4-way tie for lead after 3 rounds at Congressional

BETHESDA, Maryland (AP)—A triple bogey for Bill Haas. Double bogeys for Andres Romero and Roberto Castro.



They still wound up in a four-way tie for the lead in the AT&T National with James Driscoll, whose third round was pleasantly dull on Saturday.

Castro put the perfect finishing touch on this most wild day at Congressional when he hit his approach into the water left of the 18th green, and then chipped in for par from 80 feet to salvage an even-par 71 and

keep a share of the lead.

Haas made nine birdies and had to settle for a 68, courtesy of two wedge

shots that cost him four shots, including his triple bogey on the beastly 11th hole. Romero

AP Andres Romero, left, of Argentina, Roberto Castro, center, and Jordan Spieth mark their balls on the 17th green during the third round of the AT&T National golf tournament at Congressional Country Club, Saturday, June 29, 2013, in Bethesda, Md.



CNMI

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U19, 53-73, while Palau edged Guam U16 in the other Final Four pairing, 63-58. Guam U19 eventually took the championship as it led right at the get-go of the finals to coast to a 72-55 easy win over Palau.

Meanwhile officials of the CNMI Team were unavailable at press time to give details about the third place game, but the victory avenged its sorry defeat to Guam U16 in the preliminaries. The CNMI was in control of its first meeting with Guam U16 before the visiting team collapsed in the closing minutes of the game and eventually lost its opening match, 67-72

Guam, Palau, and the CNMI were awarded medals at the com-

pletion of the week-long tournament. Getting bronze medals for the CNMI were Jack Aranda, Ichitaro Faisao, Chris Mizer, Marc Babauta, Malcolm Maui, Darius Pettis, Erick Dela Rosa, Bryle Alegre, Jimmy Tudela, Shane Deleon Guerrero, and Emerson Fera, and coaching staff members Ed Manalili, Rufino Aguon, and Keith Nabors.

Aranda and Mizer received another recognition when they were named to the All-Tournament Team with Guam's Sammy Setik and Michael Sakazaki, and Palau's Marvic Ngchar.

Heartbreaker

In the women's division, the CNMI missed the medal podium after a controversial call in the closing seconds of its third place match against Guam U16.

According to coach Preston

Basa, they were down by only one, 41-42, and had a chance to grab the lead with 18 seconds left on the clock. The opportunity started with Michelle Kautz sprinting to their frontcourt and then dishing the ball out to Jamie Mendoza, who pulled up for a banked shot and made the basket. However, the referee nullified the shot, as he charged Kautz with a traveling violation.

Basa could not believe the call, so did majority of the spectators, who booed the referee for the controversial and crucial infraction. With the missed chance, the CNMI was forced to give up a foul and Guam U16 made a split to peg the final score.

"It was a painful loss. The girls were clearly disappointed, but we can't do anything about it. We have to move on and

learned from it. Our players are young and they will have more opportunities to represent the CNMI in the future. When that time comes, they have to learn how to control the game and lead by a good margin so situation like this (close loss) would less likely happen. The loss is really a learning experience for the girls and for me, too as a young coach," Basa said in a telephone interview with *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

The CNMI, which finished second in the preliminary round with its 2-1 record, faltered on its finals entry bid after bowing to Palau in the semis, 59-62. Then in the third place match, the CNMI played with a depleted line up, as Jeraldine Castillo was sideline by an injury and two other key players were given disciplinary actions.

and Proa. Games will be played every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday evenings.

First Game

Mobil 91 - Pelisamen 29, Babauta 21, Rabauliman 18, Peredo 10, Ruluked 9, De Guzman 5, Galzote 2.

Blazers 69 - Brennan 20, Maratita 14, S. Sablan 12, L. Sablan 11, Younis 2, Quan 2, Taitano 2.

Scoring by quarters: 18-12, 50-23, 73-43, 91-69.

Second Game

Armatech 81 - Tania 18, David 18, Manalo 15, McCain 10, Guiab 8, Esdrelon 8, Santos 4, Gabaldon 2.

Mariana Resort 55 - Joyner 13, Mangali 10, Sison 7, Moises 7, Galarse 5, Saturno 5, Montes 4, Fital 4.

Scoring by quarters: 16-11, 37-18, 68-32, 81-55.

Oceania Junior Championships in Fiji, notching four semis tickets—the most among the 20 nations that competed in the event. Meanwhile, nominations for the 5th Pacific Sports Awards are due on July 15 and winners will be announced on Sept. 8 this year in Wallis & Futuna during the 2013 Pacific Mini Games. Baseball's Rose Igitol was the first individual from the CNMI to win in the event, bringing home the Sports Administrator of the Year award last season.

had a three-shot lead at one point, and then it was gone. He went from the water to a bunker on the 11th for double bogey and followed that with a bogey on the next hole. He made six pars the rest of the way for a 70.

Driscoll, meanwhile, motored along without too much excitement. He had a 68, the only player in the field to break 70 in all three rounds. Coming off a bogey on the 15th, Driscoll though he might be headed for another with a poor tee shot. But he knocked a 4-iron out of the rough, barely got onto the green and rolled in a 25-foot birdie.

They were at 7-under 206, and more fun awaits on Sunday.

"I think over four days here, every player is going to hit kind of a rough patch," Castro said.

Ten players were separated by four shots going into the

final round, a group that includes 19-year-old Jordan Spieth. He had a two-shot lead after opening with two straight birdies, and then went through a stretch of missing five putts inside 8 feet over four holes. One of them was a three-putt from 5 feet for double bogey on No. 8. Spieth had a 74, though he's still in the game, just three shots behind.

"A wild day," Castro said.

Jason Kokrak had a 70 and was one shot out of the lead, while Charlie Wi had a 29 on the front nine and shot 65 to finish two shots behind, along with Tom Gillis (66). Spieth was in the group at 209 with Brandt Snedeker, who had a 69.

If Saturday was any indication, expect anything in the final round, especially since seven of those 10 players have never won on the U.S. PGA Tour.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES		
MLB STANDINGS		
AMERICAN LEAGUE		
East Division		
	W	L Pct GB
Boston	49	34 .590 —
Baltimore	46	36 .561 2 1/2
New York	42	38 .525 5 1/2
Tampa Bay	42	39 .519 6
Toronto	40	40 .500 7 1/2
Central Division		
Detroit	43	36 .544 —
Cleveland	43	38 .531 1
Kansas City	37	41 .474 5 1/2
Minnesota	36	41 .468 6
Chicago	32	46 .410 10 1/2
West Division		
Texas	47	34 .580 —
Oakland	47	35 .573 1/2
Los Angeles	38	43 .469 9
Seattle	35	46 .432 12
Houston	30	51 .370 17
NATIONAL LEAGUE		
East Division		
Atlanta	47	34 .580 —
Washington	40	40 .500 6 1/2
Philadelphia	39	43 .476 8 1/2
New York	33	44 .429 12
Miami	28	51 .354 18
Central Division		
Pittsburgh	50	30 .625 —
St. Louis	49	31 .613 1
Cincinnati	46	35 .568 4 1/2
Chicago	34	45 .430 15 1/2
Milwaukee	32	47 .405 17 1/2
West Division		
Arizona	42	38 .525 —
Colorado	41	41 .500 2
San Diego	40	41 .494 2 1/2
San Francisco	38	42 .475 4
Los Angeles	37	43 .463 5
AT&T NATIONAL SCORES		
BETHESDA, Maryland (AP) — Scores Saturday in the AT&T National, a US PGA Tour event at 7,569-yard, par-71 Congressional Country Club:		
THIRD ROUND		
James Driscoll	69-69-68	—206
Bill Haas	70-68-68	—206
Roberto Castro	66-69-71	—206
Andres Romero	70-66-70	—206
Jason Kokrak	71-66-70	—207
Tom Gillis	70-72-66	—208
Charlie Wi	72-71-65	—208
Brendon Todd	74-67-68	—209
Brandt Snedeker	69-71-69	—209
Jordan Spieth	69-66-74	—209
Morgan Hoffmann	73-68-69	—210
Brendan Steele	73-71-66	—210
Stewart Cink	70-69-71	—210
Nicolas Colsaerts	69-68-73	—210
Fabian Gomez	69-73-69	—211
Chad Campbell	72-70-69	—211
Ken Duke	71-70-70	—211
Graham DeLaet	68-72-71	—211
Gary Woodland	70-69-72	—211
Rickie Fowler	71-71-70	—212
Camilo Villegas	71-70-71	—212
Angel Cabrera	70-70-72	—212
Martin Flores	73-71-68	—212
David Lingmerth	74-65-73	—212
Shawn Stefani	70-74-68	—212
D.H. Lee	71-66-75	—212
John Huh	71-71-71	—213
Nicholas Thompson	73-69-71	—213
Richard H. Lee	74-68-71	—213
Brian Davis	70-72-71	—213
Adam Scott	73-71-69	—213
David Mathis	71-70-72	—213
Cameron Tringale	71-67-75	—213
Ted Potter, Jr.	72-70-72	—214
Jason Day	70-73-71	—214
Jason Bohn	73-70-71	—214
Bob Estes	73-71-70	—214
Patrick Reed	76-64-74	—214
Russell Henley	69-70-75	—214
Luke Guthrie	71-74-69	—214
Vijay Singh	70-75-69	—214
Ricky Barnes	72-71-72	—215
Chez Reavie	71-71-73	—215
Steve LeBrun	71-72-72	—215
Kevin Chappell	70-72-73	—215
David Hearn	73-68-74	—215
George McNeill	71-69-75	—215
Matt Jones	72-72-71	—215
Chris Stroud	70-74-71	—215
Charley Hoffman	74-71-70	—215
Y.E. Yang	74-71-70	—215
Robert Garrigus	72-71-73	—216
Lucas Glover	72-70-74	—216
Brian Stuard	74-69-73	—216
Brandt Jobe	71-73-72	—216
Martin Laird	71-73-72	—216
Ryan Palmer	73-71-72	—216
Erik Compton	73-72-71	—216
Sean O'Hair	73-72-71	—216
Harris English	74-71-71	—216
Derek Ernst	73-72-71	—216
Jim Furyk	69-74-74	—217
Troy Matteson	72-68-77	—217
John Rollins	73-72-72	—217
Nick Watney	70-75-72	—217
Brad Fritsch	72-72-74	—218
Henrik Norlander	72-72-74	—218
Dicky Pride	72-73-73	—218
Joe Ogilvie	76-69-73	—218
Tommy Gainey	73-71-75	—219
Billy Horschel	68-72-79	—219
Doug LaBelle II	73-71-75	—219
Ben Kohles	69-71-79	—219
Bryce Molder	72-71-77	—220
John Senden	71-73-76	—220
Bud Cauley	68-72-80	—220
Pat Perez	73-72-77	—222

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NMASA

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led Saipan International School to the championship in both the Coalition of Private School Sports Association and Marianas Interscholastic Sports Organization volleyball leagues. He won the MVP plum in the COPSSA league and also consistently joined beach volleyball tournaments last year, prompting Northern Mariana Island Volleyball As-

sociation to select him (with John Nekaifes) to represent the CNMI in the 27th Summer Universiade in Russia this month.

Besides McCullough-Stearns, Peterka is a NMIVA gem, too, steering the group's active youth program and pushing for the development of coaches. Her work with CNMI volleyball got her the 2012 NMASA Sports Administrator of the Year.

Race holds the most NMASA Coach of the Year awards with his four plums, breaking the

previous record (3) of athletics and basketball's Elias Rangamar last season. The veteran tennis coach earned her fourth NMASA Coach of the Year award after helping the CNMI Junior Team dominate the 2012 North Pacific Qualifying Tournament (now the North Pacific Regional Championships) anew. Race's wards won 11 of the 12 championships in the NPQ and the CNMI bets continued their outstanding showing in 2012 in the Pacific

Art of War 8: Grappling and Submission Challenge

PHOTOS BY ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Gracie Barra's Lorenzo Attao uses his legs to choke his opponent in a flyweight bout during the Art of War 8: Grappling and Submission Challenge held last month at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.



Trench Tech's Jose Mafnas, right, tries to pin down his Guam foe.



Two flyweight fighters watch out for each other's moves.



Ningbo "Slice" Cepeda gets a better position on the mat against Mylo Lassiter during their heavyweight bout.



Mylo Lassiter scores points on a top mount against Ningbo "Slice" Cepeda.



Dexter Balajadia of Team UA Guam goes for a rear-naked choke against Trench Tech's Shane "Pika-Boo" Alvarez.



The referee checks on Trench's Shane "Pika-Boo" Alvarez, standing, and Spike 22's Robert Alvarez.



A fighter manages to gesture despite a takedown from Vince "The Clinch" Masga.



Mylo Lassiter gets top position against Ricky Rout during an exhibition gi bout.



Two fighters in action during a featherweight match.

Williams,
Djokovic show
who's No. 1 at
Wimbledon



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Saipan Tribune Sports

Cavaliers take
Bennett with
No. 1 pick



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28 MONDAY, JULY 1, 2013

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

CNMI brings home bronze medal

Chris Mizer pulls up for a jumper, while teammate Jack Aranda looks on during a scrimmage late last month at the NMC Gymnasium.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI Junior Nationals made it to the medal podium in the men's division of the 2013 U19 Micronesian Basketball Tournament that concluded last Saturday at the Father Duenas Memorial School Phoenix Centre in Hagatna, Guam.

After going 0-3 in the preliminary round, the CNMI saved a bronze medal in the men's division, following a 64-51 victory over Guam 16 in the battle for third place match. The CNMI U19 and Guam U16 consolation game was set after they lost their separate semis tiffs last Friday. The Commonwealth cagers bowed to Guam

See CNMI on Page 26

Blowouts mark Emon Lodge opener

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Defending champion Mobil and Armatech routed their separate foes during the opening of the Emon Lodge No. 179 Brotherhood Basketball League 2013/Docomo Pacific Cup yesterday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Mobil crushed the Blazers in the first match, 91-69, while Armatech also nailed an easy 81-55 triumph over Mariana Resort in the second game of the league's opening day.

The defending champion Mobil started their title defense bid without key play Jun Estolas, who was slapped with a two-year suspension last season after an altercation with Marlon De Dios in the semifinals. However, Mobil did not miss Estolas' offense that much, as prolific scorer Freddie Pelisamen suited up for the back-to-back

See BLOWOUTS on Page 26



Mariana Resort's Art Montes loses the ball as Armatech's Ken McCain, left, and Yoshi Gabaldon double team him in the paint during the third quarter of their game in the Emon Lodge caging yesterday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

NMASA to nominate 5 to Pacific Awards



Stearns



Montgomery



Peterka



Race



Rangamar

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI will nominate five individuals to the 5th Pacific Sports Awards.

Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association president Michael White, in an email to *Saipan Tribune*, said they will nominate tennis' Todd Montgomery and Lia Rangamar for the Male and Female Athletes of the Year awards, Jeff Race for the Coach of the Year, Clay McCullough-Stearns for the Ju-

nior Athlete of the Year, and and Laurie Peterka for the Administrator of the Year.

Montgomery was named the 2012 NMASA Male Athlete of the Year for clinching two titles in the 12th Annual PIC Tennis Championships. He bagged the men's singles crown against Bobby Cruz and then partnered with former teammate Tim Quan in downing Christian Miller and Bobby Cruz in the doubles finals.

Rangamar reset the CNMI national record in javelin throw during the Oceania Regional

Championships 2012 in Australia. She also suited up for the first CNMI relay team that competed in the regional event and helped the group win the bronze medal in the 4x100m race. With these accomplishments, she earned the 2012 NMASA Female Athlete of the Year.

McCullough-Stearns was the recipient of the 2012 Tan Siu Lin Foundation/NMASA Male Student Athlete of the Year for his impressive performance in volleyball. McCullough-Stearns

See NMASA on Page 26